

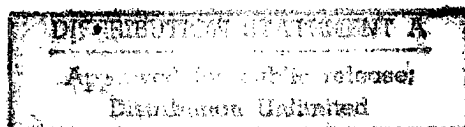
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USSR Report

MILITARY AFFAIRS



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28 August 1984

USSR REPORT MILITARY AFFAIRS

CONTENTS

MILITARY-POLITICAL ISSUES

Outstanding Komsomol Secretary Profiled (M. Malygin; KRASNAYA ZVEZDA, 15 May 84).....	1
Need for Increased Komsomol Activity Discussed (V. Bogdanovskiy; KRASNAYA ZVEZDA, 20 Jun 84).....	3
Attitude of Non-Interference Towards Rule Breakers Assailed (Ye. Reznichenko, K.K. Rokossovskiy; KRASNAYA ZVEZDA, 22 Jun 84).....	7
CH MAR AVN Kutakhov Calls for Aviation Stories, More Realism (P.S. Kutakhov; SOVETSKIY VOIN, No 11, Jun 84).....	9

WARSAW PACT

Col Gen Borisov Discusses Soviet-Czechoslovak Partnership (Grigoriy Grigor'yevich Borisov; SOVETSKIY VOIN, No 12, Jun 84).....	15
--	----

ARMED FORCES

Expenditures on Veterans' Benefits, Medical Services Rising (ZARYA VOSTOKA, 30 Jun 84).....	21
WW II Invalids Qualify for Free Automobiles (E. Korneva; TURKMENSKAYA ISKRA, 7 Jun 84).....	23
Breaches of Communications Discipline Evident During Exercise (Yu. Rozadorskiy; KRASNAYA ZVEZDA, 9 Jun 84).....	25
Yan Borisovich Gamarnik's Life, Career Outlined (N. Azovtsev; KRASNAYA ZVEZDA, 14 Jun 84).....	29

MSU Tolbukhin's Career Reviewed (S. P. Ivanov; KRASNAYA ZVEZDA, 16 Jun 84).....	33
Lack of Preparedness for Electronic Warfare Examined (A. Kovtunov; KRASNAYA ZVEZDA, 20 Jun 84).....	36
Careerist Attitudes Assailed (Yu. Teplov; KRASNAYA ZVEZDA, 23 Jun 84).....	40
Obituaries for Lt Gen A. F. Kubasov, Maj Gen I. A. Chernobrovkin (KRASNAYA ZVEZDA, 27, 31 May 84).....	46
Obituary of A. F. Kubasov Obituary of I. A. Chernobrovkin	
Educational Significance of Military Tribunal Assizes (I. Chupalenkov, A. Beznasyuk; SOVETSKAYA YUSTITSIYA, No 9, May 84).....	48
More Azerbaijanis in Higher Military Schools (KOMMUNIST, 15 Apr 84).....	52
KRASNAYA ZVEZDA Identifies Officer (P. Ledyayev; KRASNAYA ZVEZDA, 26 Jul 84).....	52
GROUND FORCES	
Complex Mountain Valley Exercise Reviewed (A. Barabash; KRASNAYA ZVEZDA, 16 Jun 84).....	53
Artillerists Urged To Observe Tactics, Follow Whole 'Battle' (V. Zababurin; KRASNAYA ZVEZDA, 21 Jun 84).....	56
AIR/AIR DEFENSE FORCES	
Outstanding Jet Pilot Profiled (A. Podolyan; KRASNAYA ZVEZDA, 5 Jun 84).....	58
Air Defense in Mountainous Areas Discussed (M. Mordvintsev; KRASNAYA ZVEZDA, 21 Jun 84).....	60
Helicopter Pilots Receive Award for Landing Damaged Craft (M. Lukanin; KRASNAYA ZVEZDA, 23 Jun 84).....	63
Ground Defense of Anti-Air Positions Practiced (V. Nagornyy; KRASNAYA ZVEZDA, 23 Jun 84).....	65
NAVAL FORCES	
VTOL Training Exercise Discussed (A. Gorkhov; PRAVDA, 20 Jun 84).....	67
Pacific Fleet Paper Hit for Weak Critical Approach (KRASNAYA ZVEZDA, 21 Jun 84).....	71
Inefficient Use, Preparation of Summer Exercises Noted (Editorial; KRASNAYA ZVEZDA, 23 Jun 84).....	74

Stalbo Discusses History, Use of U. S. Marines (K. Stalbo; NEDELYA; No 21, 21-17 May 84).....	77
SPECIAL TROOPS	
Outstanding Commander Signal Troops Profiled (V. Voronkov; KRASNAYA ZVEZDA, 22 May 84).....	82
DOSAAF	
DOSAAF Work in Central Asia Examined, Faulted (Editorial; PRAVDA VOSTOKA, 30 May 84).....	84
MILITARY EDUCATIONAL FACILITIES	
Engineering School Students Defend Graduation Projects (B. Lyapkalo; KRASNAYA ZVEZDA, 16 Jun 84).....	87
Fathers' Use of Influence Interferes With Cadets' Studies (G. Kuznetsov; KRASNAYA ZVEZDA, 22 Jun 84).....	90
Establishment, Success of 'Second Front' Reviewed (various sources, various dates).....	93
PRAVDA Comments, by D. Kraminov An Englishman's Perspective, by James Aldridge Lt Gen Lyashchenko Comments, N. G. Lyashchenko	
FOREIGN MILITARY AFFAIRS	
Western Anti-Tank, Anti-Aircraft Missile Launchers Examined (N. Grishin; KRASNAYA ZVEZDA, 20 Jun 84).....	110
AFGHANISTAN	
Tashkent Lauds Revolutionary Progress in DRA (Tashkent International Service, 20 Jun 84).....	113
Paper Describes Soldier's Heroism in DRA (Yu. Ivanov; KOMSOMOL'SKAYA PRAVDA, 24 Jun 84).....	115
Afghan Border Guards' Morale 'Very High' (Moscow Television Service, 29 Jun 84).....	119
Local Border Militia Formed in Jalalabad (A. Sukhoparov; SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA, 4 Jul 84).....	120
Guards' Major Honored for Afghan Mission (A. Oliynik; KRASNAYA ZVEZDA, 11 Jul 84).....	122
Officer Describes Service in DRA (KOMSOMOL'SKAYA PRAVDA, 11 Jul 84).....	123

MILITARY-POLITICAL ISSUES

OUTSTANDING KOMSOMOL SECRETARY PROFILED

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 15 May 84 p 1

[Article by KRASNAYA ZVEZDA correspondent, Lt Col M. Malygin: "The Secretary of the Komsomol Committee"]

[Text] In a few minutes the tight, suspenseful silence will disappear over the range with the engines bursting into a roar and then the tank cannons thundering. The first run....

The regimental commander was looking at his watch and silently nodded to Capt Oleg Gorbach. And so the secretary of the Komsomol committee was to be one of the first to carry out the firing and driving exercise. He easily jumped up on the armor....

The firing was rapid and the vehicle came back to the starting position. Having observed the actions of the tank troops, Gorbach hurried up to the field radio center. Soon his voice rang out from the loudspeaker. The Komsomol leader told about the outstanding men, Lts I. Alekryan and S. Yepifanov and what had made it possible for the young officers to hit the target with the first round, the first burst.

The only thing lacking in this broadcast was a word about the success of Gorbach himself and his actions which had been given a high grade. But we learned about this sooner than Gorbach himself, before the smoke from the explosions had scarcely cleared away. The regiment's commander immediately added:

"Our secretary has mastered several military specialties. And you for yourselves can see how he has...."

And he continued:

"I would call him a Komsomol worker both by position and by calling. In his nature there is both an organizational bent and enthusiasm...."

He immediately reinforced this assessment with an example, recalling a confidential talk in a group of young officers held upon Gorbach's initiative. They were talking about the problems which concerned the recent graduates of the military schools, they touched upon their most personal thoughts and made plans.

After this the service of many of these lieutenants went better and more energetically, they felt a vital interest in themselves and a desire of the collective to help them in their development. As for the "scope" of the exploratory Komsomol deeds, the unit commander mentioned a raid to check the readiness of the combat equipment before an exercise, the oral magazine "tankman" and the special-subject evening "Tell Us About Yourself, Comrade."

The creative upswing in the work of the Komsomol committee is particularly noticeable now, during the days of preparing for the All-Army Conference of Komsomol Organization Secretaries (Capt Gorbach is to be a participant). One has merely to remember the competition developed in the regiment for the fight to sign the report in honor of this forthcoming event. The high spiritual upswing was also reflected in the results of the young soldiers during the days of the final exercises. And now the names of the best have been mentioned. Among them are the members of the Komsomol committee Lt Yu. Voznitskiy who acted bravely in deactivating explosive articles remaining from the time of the war and the commander of the outstanding tank company, Sr Lt F. Minnullin.

Capt Gorbach has headed the regimental Komsomol organization for more than a year. He shows an involved and creative attitude toward his work. His main aim is to make the life of the collective full and interesting. So that each young person feels himself a full member of the close-knit army family and can rely on comradely support and wise advice. Oleg Gorbach was known for this at the Novosibirsk Higher Military Political All-Arms School imeni 60-letiya Velikogo Oktyabrya where he was a student. He was remembered as active and constantly on the search in one of the tank units of the Red Banner Far Eastern Military District where the young officer began his service. This was also noted by the Komsomol members of the tank regiment X of the Southern Group of Forces where Gorbach arrived for further service 2 years ago. This was noted and properly recognized having entrusted the Komsomol committee to be led by the son of the frontline veteran Mikhail Mikhaylovich Gorbach who greeted the glorious Victory Day in conquered Nazi Berlin.

Many good words can be heard about Capt Gorbach. He excels in his closeness to the men, a vital interest in the fate of those with whom he shares equally the joys and difficulties of hard army service.

Recently I happened to revisit the tank troops. I was interested in what had happened to Capt Gorbach.

"As before, he is still among the young soldiers," said the party committee secretary. "Now he has added concerns as the regiment has received young specialists from the training subunits. He has to talk with each one, know each one and help them fit into the collective. Our Oleg is now totally involved in this...."

That day I did not succeed in seeing him. But wherever I was, in the parking area of the combat vehicles, in the training classrooms, in the barracks or at the tank driving range, everywhere they replied that yes, the Komsomol secretary had been here. And possibly I for the first time did not regret that I had not seen my hero as those few minutes which would have been taken up in the meeting were needed by him that day.

MILITARY-POLITICAL ISSUES

NEED FOR INCREASED KOMSOMOL ACTIVITY DISCUSSED

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 20 Jun 84 p 2

[Article by KRASNAYA ZVEZDA correspondent Col V. Bogdanovskiy: "Party Life: Direction of the Komsomol: A Time of Strict Appraisals"]

[Text] Who could anticipate that such bad weather would break out on the eve of control problems! The tankmen went into the field with wind and a sheet of rain. Just try to discern the targets. The people were in low spirits.

Company commander Capt V. Tarasov assembled the Komsomol activists and held a brief chat with them.

"Just think: bad weather. But this is an excellent opportunity to prove that our training will withstand any ordeals. That's what we train for. Explain it to everyone this way."

Later there was a conversation with company party members.

"It is not a simple situation. We can only mobilize and inspire the people by our own example. Therefore I believe that our personal marks must be high and we will be the first to perform the exercises."

Firing began and Capt V. Tarasov, Lt O. Tychina and Lt A. Merzlyakov hit all targets in a sniperlike manner on the first run. Their example heartened the tankmen and the people gained confidence. On the next run Sgt R. Salimgariyev, Pfc N. Teberekov and Pfc S. Matusevich already brought back outstanding marks...

I recalled this episode from tank company life at a regimental party meeting. The party members were discussing their tasks stemming from materials of the All-Army Conference of Komsomol Organization Secretaries and reflecting on the style of party leadership of the Komsomol organization and what had to be done to improve it. Despite the fact that the regiment fulfilled socialist pledges and occupied leading positions in the division [soyedineniye] in the winter training period, the discussion at the meeting, frankly speaking, was acute and the appraisals were strict. The report by Lt Col I. Nestrugin and a majority of the statements primarily discussed the deficiencies and unused reserves.

Mentioned in particular were the subunits where captains V. Rudenko and N. Stepanov, Sr Lt Yu. Voronov and Lt A. Ivanov serve. They were not able to equal the leaders, but the opportunities were there. The unit command element and party committee see as one of the chief reasons the fact that party members in those subunits work poorly and in a nonspecific way with Komsomol members. For example, even when he is at Komsomol meetings Capt Stepanov does not deem it necessary to speak to the young people. Or take another party member, Capt Rudenko. He meets with members of the subunit buro only occasionally, he does not teach them, nor does he assign specific tasks.

"But the essence of party leadership of the Komsomol, and this was stated by Comrade K. U. Chernenko at the All-Army Conference, is a maximum of persuasion, comradely attention and practical assistance," emphasized Maj V. Savin, speaking at the meeting. "The experience of our best party organizations shows how important this is and what major matters it allows us to accomplish. For example, take the party members of the company commanded by Capt Tarasov."

The following facts are indicative. By the end of the winter training period 60 percent of this company's privates and NCO's who were authorized to do so became 1st Class specialists and the others became 2d Class specialists. The crews have achieved full interchangeability. Driver-mechanics have some three tons of fuel saved to their credit.

There is no question that these are eloquent results, and this is how they arrived at them. Before the beginning of the training year company party members had a chat with Komsomol buro members and attended a Komsomol meeting. They said that the subunit was to accomplish major tasks to improve the soldiers' technical schooling and combat proficiency. Think how you can help. The Komsomol members responded immediately. They came out with the initiative not only of learning to hit targets with the first rounds and first bursts, but for each person to improve his class rating, master one or two related specialties and become a ranked athlete.

Company officers actively supported the Komsomol members. Lt V. Sheremet'yev took over a technical circle. The company commander and lieutenants Tychina and Merzlyakov helped organize technical quizzes and individual classes with young soldiers and helped popularize the experience of the best specialists. Theme nights, question-and-answer nights, and the wall newspaper also "worked" to achieve the set task. That moral atmosphere of universal responsibility which reigned in the company also "worked."

This is the ability to inspire and lift up the Komsomol members for major work. Lt Col A. Proshkin, Maj V. Golosov and Capt S. Kachesov said at the unit party meeting that another ability is no less important--the ability of regarding every initiative of young people with supreme tact and supporting it even if a certain proposal at first glance seems naive and not to merit attention. Here is just one example. Sgt A. Sharipov and Pvt A. Nikolayev made an innovative suggestion which was not very successful, but Capt P. Shishkovskiy praised their work, suggested that they think and work further and gave them help. What resulted was a very original device which permitted alleviating the soldiers' work in night problems and firings.

The party meeting noted that yes, there was much that was positive, but there also were deficiencies and extremes, including those mentioned at the All-Army Conference of Komsomol Organization Secretaries. On the one hand this is excessive coddling of Komsomol members and, on the other hand, elementary inattention to their actions and concerns.

Named in particular was the company commanded by Capt V. Slastikhin, and I recalled a recent conversation with some of its party members. Here is why I met with them. I wanted to find out how an initiative by this subunit's drivers to struggle for economy of fuels and lubricants had been embodied.

But no one gave me an intelligent answer. The battalion political deputy also could say nothing specific. Senior company technician WO [Praporshchik] S. Krysyuk advised me:

"Go to see the battalion technical supply officer. Perhaps he has data."

Well, what conclusion suggests itself after this? There is probably no need to look for special reasons to understand why the drivers' initiative had subsided. The reason lay in inattention and indifference.

"Do we always place strict demands on the specific culprits for this?" was how the question was posed at a regimental party meeting. For example, how many discussions were held in the company commanded by Sr Lt V. Chernyshev about the need to organize regular work of the weapon circle once and for all? An instructor was appointed--Sr Lt A. Simotko--and the subject matter was determined, but that was the end of it. Was anyone held accountable for this at a party committee session? No. It was planned to study the experience of the 2d Battalion party buro, whose work was arranged rather well in the youth organization, but this activity, too, remained on paper.

The party committee could have given effective help to the regimental Komsomol committee in indoctrinating warrant officers as well--there was much criticism about their attitude toward training and service. WO A. Agadzhanov was expelled from the Komsomol quite recently. These are far from all the "sore" spots for which the Komsomol committee has no time. It should give suggestions, teach the activists and place demands on them, but the party committee for now has not given proper attention or importance to this.

Those who spoke at the meeting said correctly that the party committee itself should show more initiative and imagination in directing the Komsomol organization and it should know well how each party organization and every party member is working specifically with the young people.

"I wish to note . . . that we do not at all plan to judge the level of party direction of the Komsomol only from the number of issues heard by the party committees," said Comrade K. U. Chernenko at the All-Army Conference of Komsomol Organization Secretaries. "It is important above all to delve constantly and deeply into those social and ideological processes which are occurring in the young people's midst, analyze them systematically and help Komsomol organizations choose the basic directions and the most effective work forms."

The unit party committee still has a long way to go, as the saying goes, to reach that level and that style of leadership. It is very important for regimental party members to assess critically what has been achieved while on this path, to see their omissions and to judge each person's contribution to the common cause according to the strictest criterion.

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MILITARY-POLITICAL ISSUES

ATTITUDE OF NON-INTERFERENCE TOWARDS RULE BREAKERS ASSAILED

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 22 Jun 84 p 4

[Article by Sgt Ye. Reznichenko, Far East Higher Combined-Arms Command School imeni Mar SU K. K. Rokossovskiy: "What Would You Have Done? They Were Silent..."]

[Text] A Komsomol meeting was in progress, with the personal matter of Komsomol member Cadet Sergey Sayko on the agenda. One after the other, the Komsomol members took the floor and spoke emotionally and fervently. Sayko dropped his head lower and lower. It was unpleasant and bitter to hear his comrades' reproaches.

I was looking at Cadet Vadim Loskutov: How would he behave? Would he speak or be silent? Meeting my gaze, Loskutov averted his eyes and assumed an indifferent mien as if everything taking place was of little interest to him. That is how he sat until the end of the meeting. He was silent...

But Loskutov is Sayko's friend. They have been friends a long while, ever since the Suvorov School. Many in our subunit envied this friendship and their readiness to come to each other's assistance and offer a shoulder at a difficult minute. There was envy... But it turns out we knew only the outward aspect of this friendship.

Loskutov knew better than the others that Sayko was not distinguished for constancy in conduct. He could permit himself to violate discipline and requirements of the regulations rather often when there was no commander's eye on him. All this was before Loskutov's eyes and, one could say, with his tacit consent. Sayko was sure that his friend would not "give him away." In fact, as it was learned, not once did Loskutov try to keep Sayko from a bad act or point out to him behavior unworthy of a cadet and future officer. But the fact is that his friendly word and his principle might have a decisive effect on Sayko's behavior.

Is such friendship worth much? And is it friendship?

And so Loskutov was silent at the Komsomol meeting and didn't state his attitude toward what happened. This means he excused the unworthy behavior and

stood on the side of the one who violated discipline. I believe that this is just how his silence must be viewed.

What else troubled me in this incident? It was the fact that Loskutov's silence evoked no condemnation in anyone. Everyone gave the appearance that nothing special had occurred. It was all in the order of things. It turned out that we all excused the position of passiveness and nonintervention, as if that is just how this position should be in a person when matters concern a close person, a friend.

Now a day probably does not go by that we do not turn to materials of the All-Army Conference of Komsomol Organization Secretaries or without reflecting on the tasks facing the Army Komsomol. We talk a great deal about ways for shaping principle and activeness in servicemen, about the moral substance of military discipline and troop comradeship, and about what genuinely and profoundly troubles each of us today. The fact is that soon we ourselves will have to indoctrinate people, direct the work of Komsomol organizations and groups in the subunits and platoons, implement recommendations of the All-Army Conference, set an example of activeness, principle and irreconcilability toward negative phenomena, and teach subordinates such principle.

I am sure that each of us seriously thinks about this and readies himself for capable indoctrinational work with the personnel. I also am sure that each person even now can conduct, let's say, an interesting, convincing talk about true and imaginary life values and about the false and genuine understanding of friendship and comradeship. There is no question that the person will be able to give a correct, objective evaluation should an incident similar to ours occur somewhere and he will strictly condemn the position of passiveness and nonintervention. But we unfortunately are not doing this in our circle of cadets.

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MILITARY-POLITICAL ISSUES

CH MAR AVN KUTAKHOV CALLS FOR AVIATION STORIES, MORE REALISM

Moscow SOVETSKIY VOIN in Russian No 11, Jun 84 pp 4-5

[Article by Chief Marshal of Aviation P. S. Kutakhov, commander-in-chief of the Air Force, USSR deputy minister of defense, Hero of the Soviet Union: "Put Your Talent to Work, Marking the 50th Anniversary of the Founding of the USSR Writers Union"]

[Text] Ever since the Great October both our belletristic and our journalism and current affairs literature have remained aware of their responsibility to the fatherland. They have conceived of themselves as forces mobilized in its service and have discharged their responsibilities faithfully. They have taken Maxim Gorky's expression, "We want to teach the people to be heroic," as their slogan, their battle cry — Mayakovsky's line about making the pen as mighty as the sword.

Soviet literature is the flesh of the flesh of its people, and with this people it has seen action in all the theaters of wartime — on the fighting fronts and on the labor front. The trying wartime years saw 1215 writers, almost half the organization's membership of the time, go off to do battle with the enemy. Over 400 of them gave their lives in the effort to liberate the motherland and the countries of Europe from fascist slavery. The Great Patriotic War, truly a people's war, produced many beautiful works of belletristic literature, inspiring works recording the immortal deeds of the Soviet people. Many of them have rightly found their place among the treasures of both Soviet and world literature. The works of these hundreds and thousands of celebrated figures from the worlds of both literature and art sparked a flame of hatred in people toward the fascist aggressors; they gave people courage, and they steeled their will to victory.

And now today, under the present conditions of international tension and the threat of another world war, the sacred civic duty of our masters of the word is to create new works of art, works based upon high principle, works portraying the heroes of both wartime and the everyday military activity of peacetime and, through the power of the impassioned journalistic word, to work on the hearts and minds of the people and to spread the truth about the socialist way of life and the peaceloving foreign policy of the USSR.

The approach of an important date, the 40th anniversary of the victory of the Soviet people in the Great Patriotic War, is now raising our artistic work on heroic and patriotic themes to new and higher levels.

The regular meetings writers are holding with officials of the USSR Ministry of Defense and the Main Political Directorate of the USSR Armed Forces and with commanders, political personnel and rank-and-file troops, to include aviation personnel, are making an important contribution to this effort.

Meetings with our creative writers invariably produce a sense of deep satisfaction. What we hear from authors dealing with military themes gives us a chance to visualize complex phenomena occurring within the Armed Forces in greater relief and variety, to talk about how to make more effective use of examples of great heroism in the education we are now giving a new generation of soldiers and to discuss ways to give literature and journalism a greater role in discussions of subjects dealing with aviation, the role the Air Force played in defending the socialist fatherland during the war and the postwar period and of the contribution the Air Force has made to the effort to build up the combat strength of the Soviet Armed Forces. This free and creative exchange of ideas presents a good opportunity to sharpen thinking and analysis of problems concerning training and development in the Armed Forces, to probe the hidden corners of the military consciousness, to get down to the essential features of the character of the military patriot and to develop an understanding of the sources of the mass-scale heroism demonstrated by the Soviet people.

The role creative literature plays in the effort to instill and develop solid moral qualities in our fighting men, in passing our glorious heroic traditions from one generation on to another and in teaching the lessons of boundless love for the motherland and unshakable loyalty to the revolutionary red flag and the great ideals of Lenin.

As we prepare to render a worthy salute to the glorious anniversary now approaching, we should be asking ourselves how we as individuals can do more to help insure the security of our country and how we can use the example of the heroic deeds of past generations, the generations responsible for the destruction of fascism, to intensify the indoctrination we give our young people in the spirit of selfless devotion to the ideals of communism and readiness at any moment to rise to the defense of the fatherland.

Like the spring of the firing mechanism on a weapon, a good novel, a story, or an essay on military traditions or the lives and careers of combat aviators will steel the consciousness for selfless defense of the socialist fatherland, temper the will for the accomplishment of the heroic deed. Recent years have seen dozens of new volumes of memoir and other literature, including literature on aviation, arriving — you could imagine them as combat replacements — on the shelves of our army libraries. But the times require that we rise to new heights, that we now view events from a more favorable vantage point, in greater breadth and depth; life is now insistently requiring greater boldness in our study of new and little-known sources on the war and that we develop new approaches to the interpretation and analysis of these materials. Life requires innovation.

The contribution our military aviation made to victory can and should be shown in much greater breadth. For the Air Force, just as for the country as a whole, the Great Patriotic War was a severely trying time. Our flyers steadfastly did battle with the aggressor on all fronts, from the Black Sea to the Soviet Far North, displaying great courage and bravery and heroism on a mass scale. The very first day of the war saw more than 200 fascist aircraft downed in aerial combat, while over the course of the first month the Hitlerites lost 1284 aircraft.

Systematically gathering their strength and continuously attacking enemy aviation in the air and on the ground, Soviet airmen were able gradually to deprive the Hitlerites of the temporary advantages they had gained with their surprise attack.

The Soviet Air Force played a major role in the destruction of fascist German aviation. An order of the supreme commander-in-chief of August 19, 1945 declares: "In the Great Patriotic War the Soviet people have waged against fascist Germany our aviation discharged its duty to the motherland with honor.

"The celebrated falcons of the fatherland destroyed the vaunted German air force in bitter aerial combat, which at the same time gave the Red Army more freedom of action"

In battles for the freedom and independence of our fatherland, Soviet aviators provided no small number of examples of selfless steadfastness, courage and true heroism. They added many brilliant new pages to the history of the Great Patriotic War.

But the air force was by no means the largest of our forces numerically during the war!

I personally can clearly recall four citations our 7th Air Army operating in the Arctic received from the supreme commander-in-chief.

Pilots became the first Heroes and the first twice-honored Heroes of the Soviet Union. Now Marshal of Aviation A. I. Pokryshkin and Colonel General I. N. Kozhedub became celebrated aces and were awarded this distinguished title on three occasions.

Of the total number of front-line fighters awarded the title of Hero of the Soviet Union, 21 per cent were aviators. At the time they received this high title, two-thirds of them were between 20 and 29 years of age, while one out of every five new Heroes were Komsomol members. V. A. Alekseyenko, A. Ya. Bryndys, A. N. Yefimov, A. I. Koldunov and A. N. Prokhorov, Twice-Honored Heroes of the Soviet Union, were among those whose military careers came to an end at the age of 22.

We can and must use examples like this as a basis upon which to educate today's generate of troops and to develop in our youth this sense of patriotism and pride in the motherland and its air force.

The years of the struggle against fascism saw the fulfillment of the brilliant prediction by the great leader of our party and state, V. I. Lenin, that "from the point of view of morality, we are in the strongest position of all. This

has been tested in practice; it is being demonstrated now not in word, but in deed as well; it has already been proven, and perhaps if history takes a certain turn it will be demonstrated again."

Our writers and journalists are doing much to fill in the larger heroic pages of history, to uncover the details of the unfolding struggle against fascism, to show the courage and steadfastness of the patriotic Soviet fighting man, to stir the memory of the people with the power of their talent and to summon the youth of today to add to the glorious deeds of their fathers and grandfathers and to prepare themselves to stand in defense of the achievements of socialism.

The story of the war effort has by no means been told in its entirety. We have so far, unfortunately, seen no books on leading figures in our service of the armed forces, on the commanders and political officers who distinguished themselves in the war, and we saw no few of them during those years. Here is new territory to be covered by our writers and journalists, new material we can use to help intensify the heroic-patriotic indoctrination we give our youth. Personal contacts with veterans themselves can help in this noble effort. Contacts, too, with others fired in the crucible of war should be established and cultivated. Now of course it's easier to write about the war and the heroic deeds of the Soviet fighting man if you've seen it, felt it, experienced it yourself. But our young writers, too, must learn to develop these heroic-patriotic themes and find their way to the hearts and sensitivities of their readers as well.

Material to draw on to develop positive portraits and analyze the characters of individuals who would become heroes we have in abundance. The figures of Marshal of Aviation N. M. Skomorokhov and Generals A. V. Alelyukhin and V. I. Popkov, front-line aces and twice-honored Heroes of the Soviet Union, Heroes of the Soviet Union G. U. Dol'nikov, A. F. Kovachevich and others, their biographies, their careers — here alone is material for dozens of novels and stories still waiting to be written. Skomorokhov, Popkov, Alelyukhin and Kovachevich alone, for example, downed some 200 fascist aircraft. This was more than half the aircraft in one of Hitler's air corps!

The impact a literary work has on a reader is going to be directly proportional to the talent, the depth of conviction and the solidness of the ideological positions the writer takes.

Soviet writers and journalists possess these qualities, and they are prepared to undertake new works of great civic importance and patriotic force. And while themes along these lines have been the subjects of hundreds and thousands of books, essays and articles, the field in which the writer's talents can be employed nevertheless remains as wide open as ever.

The difficult and extremely dangerous international situation today requires renewed effort on the part of all of us when it comes to the military-patriotic indoctrination we give our Soviet youth and the personnel of our Armed Forces.

We need literature permeated with optimism, full of conviction of the rightness of our cause, objective in descriptions of the realities of the present day, instilling hatred of imperialism, challenging the reader, summoning him, to accomplish the heroic deed.

To be a combat pilot requires courage, maturity, selfsacrifice and, on occasion, true heroism. Each mission flown in one of today's combat aircraft becomes a test of the moral, political, combat and psychological qualities of the pilot and the crew.

Among today's aviators we can find truly outstanding, courageous, celebrated people. They have distinguished themselves in the performance of their military duties, in discharging their international responsibilities, in commanding their subordinates, in defending our airspace and in testing new aircraft and weapons.

Among such people, individuals with a bright future, with a deep sense of devotion to duty, is to be found Colonel Yuriy Ivanovich Churilov. The level of his mastery of combat skills makes him a model for emulation by younger personnel, and a biography would be worthwhile here, serving as it would as a vehicle for portraying what it takes to be a modern-day combat pilot. Churilov's career has taken him on long ocean cruises on an ASW cruiser; he has had to take off and land on a pitching and heaving deck at sea, occasionally under the most difficult of conditions. On one particular occasion, as he was approaching for a landing in vertical mode, his aircraft suddenly lost over 100 meters in altitude. Just imagine the composure and competence required to be able to make the right decision in just the split second you have under these conditions to save both yourself and your aircraft! For the achievement of high levels of proficiency in the operation of new combat equipment and for his courage and heroism, Colonel Churilov, military pilot 1st class, was awarded the distinguished title of Hero of the Soviet Union.

Our Guards and decorated regiments and formations offer extraordinarily rich sources of material for our writers and journalists. Many pilots are in the air every day defending our peacetime skies and the labors of the Soviet people. These missions provide dramatic demonstrations of just what these combat pilots are really made of. Each duty day is filled with high tension, flying missions and training.

The Air Force military council recently devoted discussion to the specific tasks involved in intensifying the program of heroic-patriotic indoctrination we give our personnel. I would like to see our efforts in this area enthusiastically supported from among the ranks of our writers and military journalists as well. We are waiting for interesting new works from them, books and essays on the combat pilots of today, the fighting men of the 1980's and works on our distinguished organizations as well. And as we have pointed out before, there is certainly plenty of material around. Each year sees large numbers of our combat aviators awarded orders and medals and outstanding units presented with banners of the USSR Ministry of Defense and challenge banners of the military council and local party and soviet organizations for outstanding performance in combat and political training.

I would like now to touch on one more very important matter. The material we now see coming out on themes in aviation does not always deal with the military-technical and social aspects of aviation in the most appropriate ways from the point of view of description, accuracy and interest; portrayals of its awesome power and the fighting qualities of our air force personnel occasionally leave something to be desired in these respects. We clearly need to give some thought

to more active ways in which our creative literature can properly reflect reality and describe the bold, disciplined, decisive human being, the professional soldier in the dynamic situations of everyday life as a combat pilot and the pathos of flying and command responsibilities. We need to see less of the everyday life and the intimate feelings of our heroes and more about the morale, erudition and ideological maturity of our pilots, navigators, engineers, technicians, commanders and political officers and their constant readiness to carry out any mission the motherland may assign them and to discharge their constitutional duty.

It is now simply a necessity that our books, newspapers and magazines and our television and motion picture screens give rightful coverage to the combat aviator developing his absolute mastery of the most complex weapon systems and equipment and the aviator as fighting man, patriot and internationalist, always ready to stand consciously in defense of his fatherland and the countries of the socialist community.

Our word artists are equal to this task. We are awaiting interesting new things from them, works which will serve as sources of both pleasure and inspiration for the members of our armed forces, give expression to their desires, feelings and thoughts and provide a means of enriching them ideologically and educating them morally.

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WARSAW PACT

COL GEN BORISOV DISCUSSES SOVIET-CZECHOSLOVAK PARTNERSHIP

Moscow SOVETSKIY VOIN in Russian No 12, Jun 84 pp 4-5

[Interview with Col Gen Grigoriy Grigor'yevich Borisov, commander of Central Group of Forces, by SOVETSKIY VOIN special correspondents: "The Feeling of the Forward Edge"; date and place not specified]

[Text] The Central Group of Forces, formed on the basis of a treaty between the governments of the Soviet Union and the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic, has been in existence for a little more than 15 years. TsGV [Central Group of Forces] personnel have a deep understanding of their patriotic and international duty to the Motherland, the Communist Party and their people. They are vigilantly and alertly protecting the western borders of countries of the socialist community.

Our special correspondents met with Col Gen Grigoriy Grigor'yevich Borisov, commander of the Central Group of Forces, and asked him to tell about the life, duty and combat training of Central Group of Forces personnel.

"We serve on the forward edge"--these words are full of deep meaning for personnel of the Central Group of Forces.

The feeling of the forward edge... It largely determines the high vigilance, responsible attitude toward combat training and strengthening of order and efficiency, and the life and duty of TsGV personnel. While stationed abroad we constantly sense the pulse of our beloved Soviet Motherland and we are pleased with our countrymen's successes in building communism. We are with them in thought and deed. We are connected with our country and with all Soviet citizens by strong, indestructible bonds. Filled with pride for the great labor achievements and for our people's creative, inspired labor to fulfill the historic resolutions of the 26th CPSU Congress, we too are holding back no efforts to worthily accomplish the responsible missions assigned to Group personnel.

Our combat training is in full swing. A motto sprouted wings: "Be on guard, in constant readiness to defend socialism's achievements." Competition gripped all Group subunits and units [chast' and soyedineniye]. The soldiers are working with vim and enthusiasm.

I often have occasion to be among the troops in problems, exercises, firings and flights. A person experiences enormous satisfaction no matter with whom among the soldiers he speaks. The people regard the performance of their missions from the state's position and they are concerned with having a high degree of combat schooling and of being always on guard as the people and party demand of us. The soldiers are deeply aware that their military labor is needed by the Motherland and is just as honorable and important as the labor of a worker, kolkhoz member, engineer or scientist.

The country needs peace in order to build communism. Soviet military personnel must be ready every minute to repel any aggression so that our children are not left as orphans and so that the grief of war does not touch our mothers, wives or sisters. What a responsible task it is to be a defender of one's homeland and all mankind against the horrors of war and to stand on guard over the peace and security of nations!

Our primary concern is combat readiness to the greatest extent. It depends to a decisive degree on the personnel's training and their ability to fight in a contemporary way and win victory over a strong enemy. This ability has a multitude of components, the leading place among which is held by tactical-weapons training, the foundation of the personnel's field and air schooling. Weapons and combat equipment can provide the planned success only if they are in skilled hands and if their use in varying situations is combined with the latest achievements of tactics and operational art.

Our immutable law has been, is now and will be the principle of teaching what is necessary in war. This means that in every combat training class a situation is simulated and created which approximates real combat to the maximum extent and which prompts trainees to show imagination and initiative, and the commander to make the most advisable decision under a rigid time limit. This means that every officer constantly and continuously seeks more advanced techniques and methods of conducting combat actions utilizing all capabilities of equipment and weapons, strives for the personnel's high state of training, and shapes their ability and readiness to immediately enter battle against any aggressor and execute the operation order.

We recently held a military council session with the participation of unit commanders and political officers where we summed up results of combat training and socialist competition for the winter training period. The missions were accomplished successfully on the whole. Field and air training improved and all tactical exercises and field firings were conducted successfully.

There has been a significant increase in the number of persons outstanding in combat and political training, rated specialists and masters of military affairs in the units and subunits, and there are more outstanding squads, teams and crews. Many companies, batteries and air subunits were declared outstanding, among them the tank company commanded by Sr Lt Ivan Kozlov, Capt Sergey Belozеров's missile battery, Sr Lt Mikhail Berezin's signal company and Capt Igor' Ivanov's reconnaissance company. High results were achieved by Capt Vladimir Fedorov's motorized rifle company, by the artillery battery of

SAU [self-propelled artillery pieces] commanded by 1st Class specialist Gds Sr Lt Aleksandr Perkhali'skiy, by the air flight commanded by 1st Class military pilot Capt Boris Pukhov, and by the ATGM battery commanded by 1st Class specialist Capt Sergey Pelevin. Great credit here goes to the commanders and the party and Komsomol organizations which mobilized the personnel to attain high results in training and discipline.

I would like to say a few words about something else. Good combat schooling of a private or NCO is inconceivable now without supreme efficiency and iron discipline based on political self-awareness and a communist ideology. Here, beyond the borders of our native country, a feeling of fervent, inexhaustible love for the homeland and for our Communist Party is especially acute. We strive to develop this noble feeling in Soviet soldiers. They realize with all their heart and soul that they are protecting the labor of our people, the first in history to build the bright edifice of communism.

Group personnel are setting high goals for themselves and planning new, higher goals in the summer training period. It is easier to proceed to a goal when it is clear.

In passing along the frontline roads in the position of platoon, company and battalion commander and coming to know the difficult work of a commander during my more than 40 years of service, I have seen for myself that a well trained, ideologically inspired, strong-willed soldier of initiative always successfully accomplishes both training and combat missions. His dedication to the job, high sense of responsibility and industriousness are the basis for achieving stable, high indicators in combat training and in preparations for defending the Motherland and socialism's achievements.

The Soviet and Czechoslovak peoples as well as their armies are linked by a dependable and long-time friendship sealed by blood shed jointly in fighting against the fascist German invaders during the Great Patriotic War.

Knowing no fear, Soviet soldiers fought at the Dukla Pass, helped the Slovak National Uprising, liberated Olomouc and Ostrava in bloody fighting, and moved swiftly to assist a Prague that had risen in rebellion. Our fighting men and commanders fought for Czechoslovak villages and cities just as selflessly and staunchly as for Soviet soil.

There are many monuments and obelisks to fallen Soviet fighting men on the territory of Czechoslovakia which attest to the grandeur of the exploits they performed. Some 140,000 of our soldiers remained to lie forever on Czechoslovak soil. A memorial entitled "Brotherhood in class, brotherhood in arms" is located in Milovice, where the headquarters of the Central Group of Forces is found. There are urns with soil brought from the fraternal graves of Dukla and Svidnik at the center of the site beneath the stars of a Hero of the Soviet Union and a Hero of the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic. Hewn in marble in Russian and Czech is the inscription: "Your names are unknown, your international exploit is immortal."

Busts of Heroes of the Soviet Union Jr Sgt Gavriil Sobyenin, Sr Lt Anatoliy Khutoryanskiy, Lt Mikhail Petrov, Capt Ottakar Jaros and Capt Stefan Vayda reflect the Eternal Flame... Since 1971 the memorial has been visited by more than 13,000 Czechoslovak civilian and military delegations.

Our soldiers in Czechoslovakia act as ambassadors of the party in explaining its Leninist policy. We are visited by Czechoslovak citizens, servicemen of the Czechoslovak People's Army, and representatives of party, state and public organizations. The residents of neighboring villages visited one of the posts not long ago. Soviet soldiers and rayon workers' representatives spoke at the meeting and our song and dance ensemble gave a concert on an outdoor stage. Somewhat later Soviet soldiers visited the Czechoslovak workers, and this meeting left a good imprint in the hearts of its participants.

The extensive work performed by commanders, political workers, and the party and Komsomol organizations contributes to the soldiers' political conditioning. We want every soldier to be ideologically conditioned, to have a good understanding of the political situation, to behave in an exemplary manner and to perform assigned tasks with dignity and honor. It is no accident that both earlier as well as today we hear Czechoslovak citizens say that every Soviet soldier is a political instructor capable of holding a talk on any political topic.

We try to see that TsGV personnel have a detailed knowledge of the history, customs and culture of the Czechoslovak people, respect the laws in effect on CSSR territory and treat its nature with care. There are colorfully arranged displays in reading rooms, enlisted men's clubs and officers' clubs which reflect the history of Czechoslovakia, the CPCZ [Czechoslovak Communist Party] and the Czechoslovak People's Army. Libraries contain a large selection of books by Czechoslovak writers, and they have albums, photographs, guidebooks telling about the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic, and newspapers in Czech and Slovak languages.

The Group of Forces maintains close official and friendly ties with the Czechoslovak People's Army which encompass all elements of Army collectives.

The joint exercises and maneuvers conducted under near-combat conditions are exceptionally important for strengthening and developing comradeship in arms. Troop coordination is perfected, their training experience is enriched, and the soldiers' fraternal friendship and understanding grows stronger in such maneuvers and exercises. In accomplishing common missions, the brothers in arms come to know each other better, they overcome the difficulties of campaign life together and they are imbued with mutual respect and trust. They see each other as reliable companions in arms on whose loyalty and assistance they can count in any situation. The solidarity of brothers in arms and the feeling of fellowship among officers and men of the friendly armies are manifested especially vividly during joint exercises.

One often sees Czechoslovak and Soviet soldiers driving combat vehicles in turn and performing practice exercises at the tank training area and the

range. A tactical exercise was held quite recently, with officers and men demonstrating heightened field training, efficiency and discipline under difficult conditions of mountainous woodland and in bad weather. They displayed genuine courage and staunchness.

The motorized riflemen of Sr Lt Grigoriy Bolotov's subunit and Czechoslovak People's Army tankmen commanded by Miroslav Bilak distinguished themselves in the exercise. They had to act shoulder to shoulder. Both officers as well as their subordinates sensed the neighbor's firm presence and knew that no one would let them down. They accomplished all missions skillfully and displayed sharpness and initiative. Our Group newspaper SOVETSKIY SOLDAT reported this.

The joint tactical exercises were a new, vivid demonstration of the strengthened brotherhood in arms for soldiers of the Central Group of Forces and the Czechoslovak People's Army. They reaffirmed that brothers in class and brothers in arms are reliably guarding socialism's great achievements.

Our combat cooperation also grows stronger during joint troop and command and staff exercises. This not only is an excellent school of professional training for commanders, staffs and the troops, but also an effective means for strengthening the feeling of proletarian solidarity and friendship among armies and peoples of the socialist community. An exchange of subunits between the TsGV's order-bearing tank regiment and the ChNA's [Czechoslovak People's Army's] Regiment imeni HSU Ottakar Jaros has become traditional.

During these joint activities there is a study of experience in training and indoctrinating military personnel and organizing socialist competition, the purpose of which is the same, despite each army's specific features: a struggle to increase the number of outstanding persons, rated specialists, and outstanding and exemplary subunits; mastery of related specialties; extension of combat equipment operating time between repairs; and a struggle for economy and thrift. The brothers in arms are united by a profound spiritual unity and by the desire to stand vigilantly, shoulder to shoulder, on guard over socialism's great achievements.

Soviet and Czechoslovak soldiers are frequent visitors to the Vladimir Il'ich Lenin Museum in Prague. One battalion held joint Lenin readings and in another battalion the army youth held a common seminar, then together they viewed a feature film, discussed it, and measured their abilities in the athletic compound.

Prominent public and political figures of the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic speak to Soviet soldiers. Comrades G. Husak, L. Strougal, J. Lenart and others have been in the units and subunits of the Central Group of Forces more than once. Army Gen M. Dzur, minister of national defense of the CSSR, often meets with TsGV personnel. The visitors tell about the life and work of the Czechoslovak people and ChNA personnel and about those grandiose tasks which the Czechoslovak Communist Party is successfully accomplishing. The Soviet soldiers are proud of the successes of their brothers and friends, and help them accomplish these tasks.

Personnel of the Central Group of Forces are continuers of the grand traditions of frontlinesmen. They worthily bear the baton of the exploit of their fathers and grandfathers, honorably fulfill their patriotic and international duty on the forward lines, constantly perfect military proficiency, and stubbornly struggle for a further increase in combat readiness of the units and subunits.

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ARMED FORCES

EXPENDITURES ON VETERANS' BENEFITS, MEDICAL SERVICES RISING

Tbilisi ZARYA VOSTOKA in Russian 30 Jun 84 p 3

[Article: "Concern and Respect for War Veterans"]

[Text] The republic's public health organs expended almost 600,000 rubles for free medical service for disabled war veterans in 1983. Veterans who were victims in battles, the majority of whom underwent a combined medical examination during the year, are provided medicines by a special pharmacy in Tbilisi and by the appropriate departments in the central pharmacies of Sukhumi, Batumi, Kutaisi, Rustavi, Poti, and Zugdidi. Reserves of medications are being created for them in rayon and rural pharmacies. "Health days" for former servicemen are conducted in many places in the republic.

These facts were presented at a session of the Presidium of the Georgian SSR Supreme Soviet which noted that in accordance with the decisions of the party and the government, great work has been done in the republic in granting privileges to disabled veterans and participants in the Great Patriotic War and their families.

Noting that in their daily activity medical personnel assist the disabled and war veterans in every way and organize their immediate reception, the session stressed that along the line of social security in 1982 3,886 people underwent free health resort treatment, and in 1983--more than 4,000. During these same years, more than 1,500 former servicemen used means of transportation on a preferential basis. Pension support of war disabled and the families of those killed is improving--last year alone more than 25,000 disabled and 4,000 widows of frontline fighters received an increased pension.

Telephone service improved somewhat--over three years 7,500 telephone sets were installed for disabled and war veterans. In Sukhumi, Kutaisi, Poti, and Rustavi apartment telephones are had by all disabled and the majority of war veterans who, for reasons of health, require constant communication with the treatment institutions.

During the last three years in the republic more than 2,000 veterans received comfortable apartments. Special food stores and stores for manufactured goods were created for them, and in Tbilisi a store for spare parts for their automobiles has been opened.

The Presidium of the Georgian SSR Supreme Soviet noted with satisfaction that war veterans are making a significant contribution to the patriotic and international indoctrination of the youth. In the republic 32 Heroes of the Soviet Union, 11 full cavaliers of the Order of Glory, 28 retired and reserve generals, and a 70,000-man army of former frontline fighters are actively participating in this work.

At the same time, the Presidium of the Georgian SSR Supreme Soviet noted that nevertheless there are shortcomings and errors in the work on granting war veterans privileges.

Thus, an analysis of the correspondence which arrived from participants in the Great Patriotic War shows that they are extremely dissatisfied with the work of many organizations, medical establishments, domestic services combines, trade enterprises, the telephone system, and the social security organs. There are frequent complaints of veterans and war disabled about the indifference and formalism in the activity of the ispolkom personnel of rayon and city Soviets of People's Deputies.

The lack of coordination in the activity of the social security departments and the public health organs deprives many war veterans of the opportunity to rest and be treated at a time convenient for them. In some social security departments no clear record is kept of the families of servicemen who were killed who need material assistance.

The Presidium of the Georgian SSR Supreme Soviet adopted a decree on the question under discussion and worked out a complex of measures directed toward the radical improvement of the state of affairs in this area.

6367

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ARMED FORCES

WW II INVALIDS QUALIFY FOR FREE AUTOMOBILES

Ashkhabad TURKMENSKAYA ISKRA in Russian 7 Jun 84 p 4

[Article by E. Korneva, Tajik Deputy Minister of Social Security: "Behind the Wheel of a Free Zaporozhets"]

[Text] One of the manifestations of the concern of the Communist Party and the Soviet government for the disabled veterans of the Patriotic War is the providing them with a free means of locomotion, a Zaporozhets motor vehicle with manual controls. This benefit is provided regardless of the group of disability, the amount of the received pension or the place of its granting (the USSR Ministry of Internal Affairs, the Ministry of Defense, the KGB and so forth). It is also extended to former servicemen whose cause of disability is not related to the performing of service duties or presence on the front.

The permissions to receive the motor vehicle are granted by the Ministry of Social Security at the place of the permanent residence of the disabled veterans on the basis of the general type medical ruling of the republic VTEK [Medical-Labor Expert Commission]. The VTEK decides the question of what model motor vehicle should be provided in each specific instance.

Regardless of the presence of medical indications, Zaporozhets motor vehicles are given free to visually disabled veterans of the Patriotic War Group I who are Heroes of the Soviet Union or winners of the Order of Glory of all three degrees.

In those instances when the disabled person who has received a motor vehicle has a deteriorating state of health, the Ministry of Social Security has the right to permit the vehicle to be temporarily operated by relatives and to draw up a permit for the person who will take care of the disabled person. But the VTEK must establish whether the traveling of the disabled person generally in the motor vehicle is possible without detriment to his health. The operator of the vehicle should undergo medical certification and receive the appropriate approval in the medical institutions under the generally accepted proceedings.

The Zaporozhets with manual controls is provided for personal use but is not private property. This means that it cannot be turned over for use to other individuals, given as a gift or sold. Nevertheless, instances of violations have been rather frequent. Thus, many disabled persons reequip the vehicles and then the free vehicle is used for personal purposes by their friends and relatives.

This is what happened, for example, with M. Akhmedov from Krasnovodsk. The disabled persons A. Amanov and R. Terayev from Takhtinskiy Rayon, S. Charyyev and M. Chohanov from Chardzhou and Sh. Koshliyev and A. Abdulkhayev from Kizyl-Arvat removed the identifying sign "R" from the vehicle with manual controls and turned them over to their relatives. The disabled persons A. Skromnyy, R. Kushchenko and M. Malikov from Cheleken turned their cars over to relatives for driving by warrant but without receiving permission to do this from the Ministry of Social Security.

To avoid violations when the State Motor Vehicle Inspectorate bodies issue the documents for the motor vehicle (the technical specifications and the violations booklet), these should state that the Zaporozhets has been received by the disabled person without the right to sell or transfer to other persons and who specifically is permitted to drive the vehicle.

A new Zaporozhets can be obtained free only at the end of the established 7-year period from the moment of acquiring the previous vehicle.

The social security bodies who provided the vehicle cover the expenditures related to instructing the disabled persons of the Patriotic War in driving. The social security bodies are not responsible for major overhauls on the Zaporozhets vehicles.

In the event of the death of the disabled person, the gratis car is turned over to his family. The State Motor Vehicle Inspectorate bodies, in accord with the instructions of the Ministry of Social Security, reregister the motor vehicle in the name of one of the family members. The vehicle then becomes the property of the entire family and is taken off the records of the social security bodies.

10272

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ARMED FORCES

BREACHES OF COMMUNICATIONS DISCIPLINE EVIDENT DURING EXERCISE

Moscow KRSNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 9 Jun 84 p 2

[Article by Colonel Yu. Rozadorskiy, Southern Group of Forces: "What Negligence Leads To, Vigilance Is Our Weapon"]

[Text] Upon receiving battalion commander Major Yu. Slostin's report that the subunit [podrazdeleniye] had negotiated "Deep" ravine and was advancing in its assigned direction, the regimental commander blanched:

"How in the world did Slostin ever end up there? Who sent him in that direction? You?"

The chief of staff standing nearby could only gesture helplessly. For it was clear that the left-flank battalion under the command of Major Slostin was going to be unable to prevent the "enemy" from occupying an advantageous position — it now found itself out of touch with the most important events. How had this happened?

At the exercise critique the battalion commander explained that his orders had been to follow the course of ravine "Deep." But now if the officer had had any doubts, a closer look at the operations map and the signal table he would have immediately seen that the ground feature designators in the new instructions differed from the ones he had. Major Slostin, however, had assumed that they had not in fact come from the regimental commander.

Prior to this, one of the staff officers on the radio net used the battalion commander's call sign in connection with his name, a gross violation of radio discipline. The "enemy," of course, did not fail to exploit this opportunity. Need it be mentioned that participants devoted serious discussion to the subject of vigilance at the exercise critique. Now the battalion commander who solved the "wrong" problem naturally had to pay dearly for his blunder. But this exercise incident showed the regimental chief of staff that the officers were not getting the right kind of radio training, what with the fact that some of them had failed to operate their communication equipment in the proper mode. This led to immediate changes in the officers professional training program.

The inculcation of vigilance is part and parcel of the effort to increase the personal responsibility of each individual for the combat readiness of his unit [chast'] and subunit. It was on precisely this point that attention was focused

during discussion at the all-army conference of Komsomol organization secretaries of the need to increase vigilance under conditions of a suddenly more aggravated international situation. Considering the fact that our adversaries are making extensive use of sophisticated means of communication and engaging in active signals intelligence operations, we must be vigilant at literally every step. Any failure to observe rules governing radio communications can lead to leaks of important information. We cannot permit ourselves to lose sight of this in the plans we make for our officers training programs.

In the military oath we find the requirement to be vigilant along with honor, bravery, discipline and unfailing adherence to regulations and orders issued by an officer. A popular saying has it that "bravery will take a town, but vigilance will save it." So to be vigilant means to refuse to countenance any manifestation of negligence or indifference or of an irresponsible attitude toward requirements governing the safeguarding of military information.

One day I stopped by the office of one of the formation [soyedineniye] staff officers and was forced to listen to an unusual telephone conversation. I could hear the officer give the last name of one of the unit commanders and then some shortened version of the name of the city where the unit is stationed. I was simply forced to interrupt.

"But I'm disguising all this," the lieutenant colonel insisted in an attempt to excuse himself.

This practice of talking around something or altering terminology in an attempt to disguise it, of employing various explanatory allusions to a piece of information or resorting to what would appear to be only minor departures from current regulations governing conversations and official and personal correspondence — these practices are nothing other than gaps through which can slip information which is not intended for public consumption.

In his memoirs Marshal of the Soviet Union I. Kh Bagramyan recalls a telegram front headquarters received from a commander: "The newly reopened village soviet in Borisovka is coming under bombing attacks. There are no air defense weapons. I am requesting one AA battery and one machine-gun company." The enemy, the marshal concluded, had had no trouble at all figuring out what was meant by "the village soviet which had just reopened in Borisovka" if so many men and weapons were now needed to cover the place.

And the fact is that by using "pencils" to refer to people in their reports, "farms" to mean units or using "boxes" in place of tanks some of our commanders even today really believe the enemy is not going to be able to puzzle out what they are talking about. With this kind of erroneous thinking we must do hard and decisive battle.

I recall what happened during the exercise in one particular unit when tank battalion commander Lieutenant Colonel B. Panchenko tried to give an order in clear text (as it turned out, he didn't have his signal table at hand at the time). He had been able to say only a few words when communications with his subunits were broken off. Deciding he needed to deal out some exemplary "punishment" for this breach of discipline, the exercise officer himself took this step against the battalion commander.

The battalion commander then tried to get his new company mission assignments out by messenger, but it was already too late. The "enemy" had been able to take advantage of the confusion now reigning within the battalion and inflict heavy losses on the attackers.

Lieutenant Colonel Panchenko was penalized for this lapse in vigilance. The commander, his staff personnel and the regimental party committee were then able to draw the proper conclusions as well. They ultimately turned out an entire program of educational activities designed to heighten vigilance on the part of all personnel. Among other things, command-staff exercises, tactical problem drills and field training exercises now saw the officers begin to use their communication equipment with special charts and signal tables against heavy jamming. The operation of all radio and other communication equipment was monitored closely, particularly as the subunits were deployed in the field and then during the exercises themselves. Any breach of radio discipline now became the subject of a thoroughgoing analysis.

All members of the armed forces come into contact with official documents and classified material to one extent or another. The attitude he displays toward these documents and his ability to make proper use of them is also an indicator of an officer's vigilance, of his mastery of proper staff procedures and of the level of his training as an officer.

On one particular occasion, as Colonel V. Demidov, one of the group of forces staff officers, was checking the operating condition of the unit's radios, he discovered a document which should have been returned to the special library for official documents. As it turned out, the document had been signed out to Senior Lieutenant V. Konka, the subunit commander. He had gotten it to use in preparing to repair some radio equipment. He was then unexpectedly called to headquarters. Konka left the document with a sergeant. When the sergeant completed his work on the equipment he put the document away in a drawer in the radio. Two whole days then passed without the senior lieutenant's thinking of the document he had left.

Would it have been possible to take immediate steps in the case of such "forgetfulness?" Of course. This was the responsibility of Warrant Officer I. Maryshev, the staff officer in charge of official clerical and administrative work. But he, too, showed himself to be negligent. As it turned out, the unit had never instituted the practice of submitting daily evening reports to the chief of staff that all material had been returned on time.

Now this is, of course, an exceptional case. The guilty parties were punished severely. The subunit commander, incidentally, attempted to explain his failure by claiming he was unaware of the rules governing the use of official documents. He had to be reminded that ignorance of regulations and established procedures does not relieve a man of responsibility if he violates them.

So, in one instance we see an order the "enemy" was able to slip in knock a battalion out of action, while in another a case of personal negligence causes an important document not to be returned to unit headquarters on time. In my view, the most important factor contributing to these situations is the fact that attention to the obligations contained in the military oath and the provisions of

military regulations has yet to be consistently given in the course of our training programs and our daily routines; and when these obligations are discussed, this discussion is not always reinforced by close checks on performance and high levels of exactingness. We have to teach vigilance, too.

8963

CSO: 1801/350

ARMED FORCES

YAN BORISOVICH GAMARNIK'S LIFE, CAREER OUTLINED

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 14 Jun 84 p 2

[Article by Professor, Colonel (Retired) N. Azovtsev, Doctor of Historical Sciences: "Yan Gamarnik, On the Anniversary of His 90th Birthday"]

[Text] The years of the revolutionary struggle to overthrow capitalism and consolidate the victory of socialism in our country saw Lenin's party of communists call forth from among the popular masses and temper for their role no small number of devoted fighters in the cause of the working class, talented organizers, true leaders of the people. One of these celebrated figures was Yan Borisovich Gamarnik.

He was born June 2(14), 1894 into the family of a white-collar employee in Zhitomir. His active participation in the revolutionary struggle began while he was a student in St. Petersburg and then in Kiev, where he joined the ranks of the Bolshevik Party in 1916. He was soon made a member of the Kiev party committee and then entrusted with the position of secretary.

Comrade Yan now plays a major role in preparations for the uprising in the city and then following the Great October devotes all his energies to the effort to mobilize the masses to repel the internal counterrevolution and the German and Austro-Hungarian aggressors invading Soviet territory. In discussions of the provisions of the Brest treaty at the 2d All-Ukrainian Congress of Soviets (March 1918), he resolutely supports Lenin's position on this question. As a member of the Organizational Bureau created to undertake preparations for the 1st Congress of Communist Party (Bolshevik) of the Ukraine, he plays an active role in mobilizing the efforts of the Ukraine's communists and in organizing the ranks of the republic's Bolshevik Party. His meeting with V. I. Lenin as a member of a group delegates to this congress, which met in Moscow in July 1918, was a major event in his life.

Upon his return to occupied Ukraine, Ya. B. Gamarnik throws himself aggressively into the effort to implement Lenin's instructions concerning steps to be taken to intensify the partisan struggle in the enemy rear. He is a member of the underground Ukrainian Center ("Devyatka" ["The Nine"]) and one of the leaders of the Odessa, Khar'kov and Crimean underground party organizations. May 1919, when the Red Army liberates Odessa, finds him in this city once again, now as head of the party's guberniya committee and taking a position on the Odessa

Defense Council, which was responsible for directing the effort against Denikin, Petlyura and Makhno in southern Ukraine.

August 1919 saw the situation in the Odessa area deteriorate sharply: pressing in on the city from all directions, the enemy had cut off units of the 12th Army located there. There was only one thing to do: break out to the north and link up with the rest of the 12th Army. In an attempt to insure the success of the breakthrough, all forces located in this area were combined into a Southern Group of Forces placed under the command of I. E. Yakir, commander of the 45th Division, Ya. B. Gamarnik, later assigned as well to duties as commissar of the 58th Division, L. I. Kartvelishvili and V. P. Zatonskiy now assuming responsibilities on the Revolutionary Military Council.

Yan Borisovich played a major role in the preparation and execution of a most difficult 400-kilometer fighting campaign through the enemy rear from the area around Odessa to Zhitomir. His "In Memory of a Fighting Man of the Southern Group" played a particularly important role in raising the fighting spirit of the troops.

The motherland showed its deep appreciation of the heroic effort of the fighting men of the Southern Group who had participated in this now legendary campaign. By a decree signed by V. I. Lenin, the Defense Council awarded the 45th and 58th Divisions the Honorary Revolutionary Red Banner, while all personnel of the group were authorized a money award in the amount of one month's pay. A number of the leaders of this campaign were awarded the Order of the Red Banner. Among them was Ya. B. Gamarnik.

The years 1920-1923 see Yan Borisovich continue his efforts in Ukraine, in both Odessa and Kiev, where he devotes his energies to the organization of support and assistance for the front and the forces fighting to repel what proved to be the last campaign undertaken by the Entente, to the struggle against kulak banditry and to the effort to rebuild the shattered economy. But at this point the party sends him to the Far East. Here, in his posts as chairman of the Maritime Guberniya Executive Committee, the Far Eastern Revolutionary Committee and the kray executive committee, secretary of the party's Far Eastern kray committee and member of the Revolutionary Military Committee of the Siberian Military District, he played a major role in the effort to develop the economy and culture of this vast region and to strengthen our borders in the Far East. He is now transferred to Belorussia, where he functions for a year or so in the position of first secretary of the central committee of the Communist Party (Bolshevik) of Belorussia and as a member of the Revolutionary Military Committee of the Belorussian Military District.

The year 1929 opens an important new chapter in the life and career of Ya. B. Gamarnik: in October of this year he is named chief of the political directorate of the Workers' and Peasants' Red Army, a member of the USSR Revolutionary Military Committee and editor-in-chief of KRASNAYA GAZETA. June of the following year sees him confirmed as deputy chairman of the USSR Revolutionary Military Committee and deputy people's commissar of the army and the navy (deputy people's commissar of defense as of June 1934). In 1935 he is awarded the rank of army commissar 1st rank.

The almost eight years Ya. B. Gamarnik served in these high posts constitute an important chapter in the history of our armed forces. A true Leninist, he devoted vigorous efforts to the implementation of party policy in the field of military development and organization.

These years, as we know, saw our armed forces go through a phase of reequipment and rearmament, which became possible with the success of socialist industrialization. Yan Borisovich contributed everything in his power to this effort, striving to insure that commanders, political organs and party and Komsomol organizations addressed the problems involved in technical training for their troops squarely and decisively. "We in the army," he emphasized in one of his articles, for example, "have wonderful human material to work with, men boundlessly devoted to the cause of the proletarian revolution. We have to give them more weapons and equipment and vehicles and airplanes and then teach them, and teach them well, help them develop absolute mastery of this equipment."

He also played an active role in the reorganization of the army necessitated by this reequipment program as well as in developing new structures and methods of operation for the army in its new organizational form. He strove consistently to orient the party toward strengthening the system of one-man command in the Red Army and working to insure the unity of combat and political training for military personnel. He also devoted a great deal of attention to the development of military science and to efforts to improve standard of living and cultural services provided members of the armed forces.

To increase the role of army party organizations and of all communists in the armed forces was one of Ya. B. Gamarnik's constant concerns. Typical of this effort was the 3d All-Army Conference of Party Cell Secretaries held in May 1931, on which occasion he delivered the main address. His solid analysis of the fund of practical experience available, his well-argued criticism of deficiencies, the clear definition of tasks ahead of party political organizations and other features of his address left a great impression on those present. This conference, whose decisions were approved by the Central Committee of the All-Union Communist Party (Bolshevik), contributed to the effort to intensify the activities of the party cells in the army and to mobilize and solidify the ranks of armed forces communists around the party central committee.

Yan Borisovich spent a considerable part of his time outside his office — he visited the troops and he visited enterprises and kolkhozes. I had occasion during those years to spend some time as a student at a military school in Vladivostok, after which I served as a commander in the Special Red Banner Far Eastern Army, and I can clearly recall how upon instructions from the central committee and the government the chief of the political directorate of the Workers' and Peasants' Red Army would come to visit us in the Far East every year to do what he could to help local officials in their efforts to develop the economy and strengthen the defense of the region. I also heard him speak — dramatic, impassioned, stirring speeches — and I recall the response his speeches would draw from our comrades. It suffices to say only that his authority and prestige within the OKDVA [Special Red Banner Far Eastern Army] were exceedingly high.

But not only in the OKDVA, of course. It was no coincidence that our communists sent him as a delegate to eight party congresses — from the 10th to the 17th;

at the 14th Congress he was elected a candidate member, and at the 15th and all subsequent congresses a full member of our party's central committee. The Order of Lenin he was awarded in 1933 was recognition of Ya. B. Gamarnik's great services to the motherland.

Our people have always remembered Ya. B. Gamarnik as a true son of the party of Lenin, a fearless fighter for its cause and as a leading party, government and military figure of the Land of Soviets.

8963

CSO: 1801/350

ARMED FORCES

MSU TOLBUKHIN'S CAREER REVIEWED

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 16 Jun 84 p 2

[Article by Army Gen S. P. Ivanov on occasion of the 90th anniversary of MSU F. I. Tolbukhin's birth: "Service to the Homeland"]

[Text] During my years of military service I have had occasion to meet many Soviet generals and military leaders whose lives are a vivid example of selfless service to the Motherland. One of them is Mar SU F. I. Tolbukhin, under whose command I was fortunate to serve as chief of staff of the 3d Ukrainian Front.

Fedor Ivanovich was loved by all: by staff officers and the soldiers on the front line. They loved him for his military leadership talent and for his modesty and humaneness.

Fedor Ivanovich was born on 16 June 1894 in a peasant family in Yaroslavl Oblast. He finished a zemstvo school and then the Peterburg Commercial School. At age 20 he was called up for military service. He studied at the Oranienbaum Officers' School and completed its accelerated course in 1915 in the rank of warrant officer [praporshchik]. During World War I he commanded a company and then a battalion at the Northwestern and Southwestern fronts. Following the February Revolution of 1917 he was elected secretary and later chairman of a regimental committee.

The future marshal began service in the Soviet Armed Forces as an assistant chief of staff for operations of the 56th Rifle Division, 7th Army. At that time the division was fighting Yudenich's troops at Kingisepp. Two years later he already was in charge of a field staff and had been awarded the Order of Red Banner for the high organizing abilities displayed in this position in the defeat of the White Poles in the area between the Narva and Zapadnyy Bug rivers.

Fedor Ivanovich Tolbukhin's leadership talent unfolded fully during the Great Patriotic War. During the Battle of Stalingrad he was deputy commander of the Stalingrad Military District in early 1942 and in July he became commander of 57th Army of the Southeastern Front whose units [soyedineniye], in coordination with other units [chast'], prevented a penetration of the enemy's 4th Panzer Army to the shores of the Volga south of Stalingrad. The 57th Army also

distinguished itself under Maj Gen Tolbukhin's command in eliminating an encircled enemy grouping at Stalingrad. Fedor Ivanovich Tolbukhin was decorated with the Order of Suvorov 1st Class by Ukase of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium. The military rank of lieutenant general was conferred on him.

In the spring of 1943 Tolbukhin was appointed commander of the Southern Front, the troops of which did much to prevent the enemy from shifting his forces to the vicinity of the defensive battle which had begun in the Kursk Bulge.

After beginning an offensive on 18 August 1943, front forces penetrated a defensive line on the Mius which the Hitlerites had set up over a period of almost two years and which they regarded as insurmountable. They repulsed enemy counterattacks and, after widening the penetration to the south, they interdicted and routed the enemy's Taganrog grouping. The enemy's situation became critical. Fighting broke out along the entire semicircle to the north, east and south, with troops of the left wing of the Southwestern Front moving into the attack. The Hitlerites were unable to halt our forces' offensive and began a withdrawal in the first half of September. The Donetsk Basin, an important coal and industrial region in the southern part of our country, was returned to the Motherland.

Recognizing Col Gen Tolbukhin's services in this operation, the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium awarded him the Order of Kutuzov 1st Class by an ukase dated 17 September 1943 and the USSR Sovnarkom [Council of People's Commissars] soon conferred the military rank of army general on him.

Tolbukhin became commander of the 3d Ukrainian Front in May 1944. This is a memorable time for me. All of us experienced the influence of Tolbukhin's personality daily. I won't say that it was easy for us, but the work was interesting. The originality of the commander's thinking as a military leader and the boldness and depth of his concepts prompted each one to take an imaginative approach to the assigned mission.

This had a beneficial effect on the successful preparation of the Jassy-Kishinev Offensive Operation, which was distinguished by its fast-moving nature and exceptionally high results. Over a ten-day period (20-29 August 1944) troops of the 3d and 2d Ukrainian fronts routed Army Group Ukraine-South and surrounded and fully annihilated 18 fascist German divisions, capturing or killing an overall total of 256,000 enemy officers and men. Advancing 350 km, our forces liberated Moldavia and took the Kingdom of Romania out of the war on the side of Hitler Germany. The Romanian Army turned its weapons against the fascist German occupiers.

By Ukase of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium dated 12 September 1944 Tolbukhin was given the military rank of marshal of the Soviet Union for high military leadership proficiency in leading the troops in the strategic operation and for successful implementation of the Supreme High Command's plan. This was a deserved appraisal of our commander's talent.

Mar SU Tolbukhin made a major contribution toward executing the operation to liberate Bulgaria from the fascists. Mobile forward detachments crossed the Romanian-Bulgarian border on 8 September and pushed into the depth of the country. An uprising began in the Bulgarian capital of Sofia on the night of 8/9 September. Representatives of the monarcho-fascist authorities were arrested. Power passed into the hands of the Patriotic Front Committee, the new government broke with fascist Germany and declared war on it. By the end of 9 September front forces had accomplished the assigned mission and ceased military actions. Tolbukhin showed himself to be not only an experienced military leader, but a mature political figure as well. Bulgaria greeted front forces commanded by Mar SU Tolbukhin warmly and sincerely.

Our troops were advancing successfully and were awaited by the Yugoslav partisans. Fedor Ivanovich Tolbukhin also was in a hurry. Soon the Belgrade and Budapest offensive operations and the Balaton Defensive Operation had been worked out and conducted brilliantly under his leadership.

Front forces also operated successfully in the Vienna Offensive Operation and as a result they took the Austrian capital on 13 April 1945.

Moscow, our Motherland's capital, saluted the valorous troops commanded by Mar SU Tolbukhin 34 times. He was decorated with the Victory Order for skilled performance of assignments from the Supreme High Command in directing large-scale combat operations resulting in outstanding successes being achieved in defeating the fascist German forces.

Fedor Ivanovich died on 17 October 1949 at the age of 55. A monument was erected to Tolbukhin in 1960 on the Samotechnaya Square of our Motherland's capital. He was posthumously awarded the title of Hero of the Soviet Union on the eve of the 20th anniversary of Victory.

The name of Mar SU Tolbukhin has gone down forever in our people's heroic annals. It has been immortalized in the names of streets, squares, cities and settlements.

6904

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ARMED FORCES

LACK OF PREPAREDNESS FOR ELECTRONIC WARFARE EXAMINED

Moscow KRSNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 20 Jun 84 p 2

[Article by Lt Gen A. Kovtunov, chief of staff of Red Banner Central Asian Military District: "Control in Combat: Under Conditions of Jamming"]

[Text] We are faced by many difficult and responsible missions in the summer training period, one of which is to perfect command and control of forces and weapons in combat. I single out this direction in the many-sided work of commanders and staffs not only because I have occasion to deal with problems of command and control face to face, as the saying goes, in official duty. As winter training showed, the problem also lies in the fact that not everything is going smoothly for us. Naturally I would not like the units to forget about the lessons of winter during summer training, including those such as the following.

...After penetrating the regiment's defense in one of the sectors, the "enemy" advanced swiftly into the depth. Nothing else remained for the defenders except to hastily commit one of the battalions in the second echelon, and the regimental commander already was prepared to do this. But the situation suddenly was complicated by the fact that the group which penetrated was avoiding combat and was pushing toward a mountain ridge rising above the defenders' positions. It was easy to surmise that the "enemy" had decided to cover the entrance to the narrow gorge where the path to the pass began.

That same battalion from the second echelon was required to hinder him. It was necessary to move stealthily to intercept the "enemy" who had penetrated and force him to give up his plan by a surprise counterattack.

After summoning the battalion commander to the command post, the regimental commander quickly placed him in the picture and advised him how best to proceed to keep the "enemy" from preempting the battalion with the move to the favorable line. Capt V. Polyakov managed to move his subordinates precisely to the designated area and the surprise attack was crowned with success.

In this exercise phase the battalion commander and his subordinate officers demonstrated firm skills in controlling the subunits using maps, handflag and light signaling systems, and navigation devices mounted on tanks and infantry fighting vehicles. Success largely was predetermined by the fact that the rather complicated tactical maneuver was carried out without the use of radio

communications equipment. Actions in a regime of radio silence contributed to the attainment of surprise.

But they did not succeed in maintaining this regime throughout the fight. Soon the regimental commander had to retarget the battalion commanded by Capt Polyakov once more. This time he assigned the mission by radio, naturally observing appropriate control rules. But the battalion commander did not adhere to these rules very much and the "enemy" determined his location with the help of signal intelligence. A strong antitank reserve was moved to meet the battalion, and electronic countermeasures [ECM] capabilities were targeted here as well.

As soon as the battalion moved into the attack heavy jamming appeared on its radio net. Capt Polyakov was practically unable to transmit commands and signals and receive feedback. Moreover, he was not able to give company commanders the signal for shifting to an alternate frequency if necessary, because he had not foreseen such a turn of events. He also could not duplicate the signal by some other method since he had not agreed on this with subordinates.

This incident became a good lesson for more than the battalion commander alone. I know that the next class in the regiment's command training system was devoted to a study of techniques for restoring disrupted command and control where the enemy is employing ECM.

But that was later. During a critique of the exercise at that time there was a beneficial discussion of the problems of command and control. In analyzing the mistakes in Capt Polyakov's actions in detail, the exercise director also referred to another example.

The situations generally were similar. A motorized rifle battalion commanded by Capt A. Kichigin also was functioning under conditions of active communications jamming. And, like Polyakov, Kichigin was not able to give subordinates the prearranged signal for shifting to an alternate frequency. This did not lead to loss of control, however, because all officers in the battalion knew that with the appearance of insurmountable jamming on the air they were to shift to an alternate frequency without being told. To keep the "enemy" from discovering the tuning-off process, it was to be done with the equipment turned off. That is how everyone did it.

In short, the exercise showed once again that quantitative and qualitative superiority over the enemy is not enough in modern combat; we also have to win the war on the air waves. Under conditions of electronic warfare [EW] a commander must concern himself with restrictions on the operation of radio and radar equipment, about following the rules for controlling subunits, about observing the prearranged regime for their activities in an area or at positions, about observing the rules for light, thermal, sound, radio, radiotechnical and radar camouflage, and so on.

All this is prescribed by the field manual but in fact, as we see, some commanders lack prudence and vigilance. Some have to be reminded that it is impossible to direct combat without having mastered the techniques of control

under conditions of jamming. It was no accident that the report by CPSU Central Committee Politburo Member, USSR Minister of Defense Mar SU D. F. Ustinov at the All-Army Conference of Komsomol Organization Secretaries stressed: fighting in a modern manner means keeping a firm hold on the threads of control over troops and weapons in a difficult situation and under conditions of massive electronic jamming by the enemy.

Great Patriotic War experience also orients us toward acquiring skills of controlling the subunits under jamming conditions and toward instilling vigilance. We know, for example, that the Hitlerite command sent scouts trained to operate radio transmitters into the rear of Soviet forces. Those scouts would go on the air and intervene in radio conversations and transmit false information on the operating frequencies of our subunits. Such a thing cannot be precluded in modern combat as well.

We conducted the following experiment in one exercise. During combat the "enemy" began to insert misinformation on the radio net of one of the subunits. This was done using the battalion commander's voice recorded on magnetic tape. False commands were given briefly and abruptly as befitting combat. It would appear that the misinformation should work here, but the tankmen guessed the "enemy" stratagem and immediately shifted to an alternate frequency.

What helped them? First of all, the subunit commanders knew the tactical situation precisely, they reacted attentively to the commands coming from the senior chief and they executed them intelligently. Secondly, everyone right down to the tank commander knew how to check the accuracy of a command by repeating it using a prearranged signal. This allowed distinguishing dummy commands quickly. The "enemy" himself proved to be in a trap. He "hung" on the tankmen's operating frequency for a long time. Meanwhile, the battalion commander used a reserve radio net.

As we see, the control of forces and weapons in combat under jamming conditions will be stable if the commander and staff provide for a high degree of readiness, survivability, security and concealment in the operation of communications equipment. It is understandable that the accomplishment of these tasks depends on how well officers handle communications equipment, the extent to which they are armed with knowledge of the features and capabilities of a particular radio, and the extent to which they have a clear idea of how to make effective use of it under conditions of communications jamming.

The capability of command and control under jamming conditions is advanced to the fore in command training. We know, for example, that a nuclear burst in the atmosphere can preclude normal operation of radios for a long while, especially in the short-wave band. The question of instilling skills of comprehensive protection of radio equipment and line communications equipment in commanders arises acutely in this regard.

Experience in this work has been gained in a number of our district's units. In particular, the regiment where Maj A. Sal'nikov is chief of staff successfully accomplishes tasks of ensuring stable communications and organizing the

fight against signal intelligence and jammers. A situation is set up here in all exercises which gives officers an opportunity to acquire control skills under near-combat conditions and which prompts them to seek effective ways of performing the combat mission.

At the same time, indulgences and oversimplifications still are encountered in practicing control problems in this regiment and in some of our other units. In particular, proper attention is not always given to an estimate of the electronic situation. At times the measures to assure reliability and continuity of control and to camouflage radios and wire communications equipment appear to be ineffective and insufficiently thought out, and features of their use at night, in the mountains and under other difficult conditions are not considered. Some graduates of military schools and academies and some communications specialists who arrive in the units from training subunits are poorly prepared for battlefield operations under conditions of a difficult electronic environment.

Of course, we try to fill in the gap in their training, but there are difficulties in this matter. There still are few textbooks on these important issues. We often have to teach officers and NCO's by relying only on our own knowledge and experience. We obviously have to engage in more thorough training of the commanders for actions under EW conditions.

Our Army is constantly developing and its equipment and weapons are improving. There also is a continuous exploration in the sphere of command and control of forces and weapons on the battlefield. This exploration concerns every officer and obligates him to prepare all problems and exercises thoughtfully and without oversimplifications and develop in himself and subordinates the ability to accomplish combat missions under all conditions and in the most complicated situation.

6904

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ARMED FORCES

CAREERIST ATTITUDES ASSAILED

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 23 Jun 84 p 3

[Article by Col Yu. Teplov: "A Military Writer's Notes: Duty and Career"]

[Text] He stood before the dark window and went over in his mind all the troubles of the trip to the separate railroad battalion which had just ended. Everything had turned out not at all as expected and now he, as the new political department chief, had to make a decision which he in no way wanted to make.

He had traveled to the best subunit which was commanded by one of the best officers. The commander greeted him as prescribed, led him into his office, and the political department chief could not refrain from an astounded "Oho!" The office struck one by its size and furnishings.

"And what's that?" asked the political department chief, pointing to a second door.

"We haven't had time to furnish it yet..."

"That" was a room which could serve both as a bedroom and a small banquet hall. "That" also held a tiled shower.

"Isn't that a lot for one person?"

The battalion commander was about to say something in response but the political department chief interrupted him:

"Eliminate the enclosure! Cut the office in half in favor of the staff officers..."

"It's all clear," the reader will think. "Another speech about symptoms of self-conceit..."

No, and not even about the battalion commander, but about the political department chief. And that's for openers.

He stood at the window and reflected: If it were all a matter only of the office! During the days he spent in the battalion he managed to see and

understand a great deal. Most unpleasant of all was the "double book-keeping." There was a mass of unfinished work at the sites which already were listed on papers as ready for being turned over for operation. As was learned from talks with Komsomol activists, there were three times more infractions of military discipline than had been reported. The battalion commander himself somehow resembled a lord both in manners and actions. It was high time to make him answerable to the party and raise the question of removing him from the position...

All this was the cause for reflection.

After long years of duty at the most remote "sites," the political department chief had been assigned to a large city, which pleased the entire family. But how would he appear after debunking the fame of a foremost battalion and putting out the beacon which had "shone" for several years now? And frankly speaking, it was not without danger to touch the battalion commander. Someone of the senior chiefs loved to travel to this post, where people knew how to greet and indulge them. This "someone" also was a superior to the political department chief who already had expressed his categorical opinion on the phone:

"Restrict yourself to verbal admonishment!"

But it was in no way possible to "restrict himself," because the "grasping" battalion commander could become an example for emulation by young officers. Such an example had to be debunked immediately, which meant... By the way, how could he know what it meant? Meanwhile, the political department chief also was thinking of the fact that his period of service in the rank of lieutenant colonel would end in the near future. What officer is indifferent to a new star on his shoulderboards?

No, he wasn't vacillating. He made a firm decision. One can't prohibit the thoughts swarming in the mind...

It is worthwhile admitting that it probably is not such a rarity to have a situation where duty and considerations of a personal nature clash. These considerations can be varied, including thoughts of a future career. Duty usually is persuasive, because the job and justice always were above all else.

But... You see, there is also a "but."

Haven't you had occasion to come across instances where a person begins to consider all pros and cons, and above all his ego, in such a situation or a similar one? I have had such an occasion. I have met fawners and toadies ready to strike a bargain with their conscience for the sake of a position or title or in order not to spoil a career. It is believed that those people for whom it is important how "Princess Mar'ya Aleksevna" will speak of them have disappeared into the past. By the way, they really have disappeared. Now no one will say out loud or in public: "He is aspiring to be a minister and I will be his son-in-law."

But a vestige of the past called careerism still is alive. Only the careerist now is different and has a fully decorous mien. Is it criminal to promptly support a superior's opinion, to criticize a person with whom the superior is dissatisfied or even to be silent at a necessary moment? To organize a hunting or fishing trip or present a souvenir with consideration for a hobby as well is being respectful to a guest! To respond promptly to some initiative by making higher albeit unrealistic pledges represents good intentions... Well, where is the careerism?

And is it at all worthwhile to blame people striving to make a career? And so is this word so terrible?

The Dal' "Tolkovyy Slovar'" [Defining Dictionary] explains it as a "path, or field of life, duty, successes and the attainment of something." That means it is neutral in the fundamental principle. Life suggests that a few people will be found indifferent to their destiny or changes in service. The striving for service growth is fully natural in an officer environment. Stars on the shoulderboards characterize the extent of each person's services to a certain degree. The desire of a person, especially a young person full of energy and creative plans, to assert himself and occupy an official rung corresponding to his abilities is fully natural. From there one can see further and it is easier to implement the concepts and plans which have matured for the benefit of the job and people.

Nevertheless, the word "career" has a negative shade of meaning. It is when a person, no matter how energetic or knowledgeable he may be, forgets public interests and begins to be concerned more about himself. There is such an almost imperceptible limit where he becomes a careerist when he oversteps it. Therein lies the trouble: the limit is almost imperceptible. It isn't easy to hang such a tag on a person! At first it is even impossible to find a substantial, obvious hook for this purpose, although we ourselves see, sense and determine a careerist for ourselves. We ourselves can toss off in a circle of friends: "He will go over dead bodies for the sake of a career." It is intuitive, of course, but we feel it.

In my youth as a lieutenant I had a colleague, Sr Lt Anatoliy Golin. One sensed an incessant, all-penetrating energy in everything he did. The regimental commander doted on him and stressed rather often that he was a promising officer with a military vein.

Golin probably really was given more than the others. He drove a prime mover superbly, worked brilliantly for all members of the gun crew and fired the personal weapon excellently.

And he also had a nickname--"Green Soap-Dish"--a strange nickname which he acquired after one of the inspections of internal order in the sleeping spaces. The inspector was struck most of all by the uniformity of night stands, right down to the fact that there was a green soap-dish and green toothbrush in each of them. That is when we had a conversation.

"One must draw conclusions from what the chief says," he said gaily and, seeing that he wasn't getting through to me, he explained: "You remember, the commander said that the meaning of beauty for a soldier lies in absolute uniformity..."

The soap-dishes are a trivial matter, nonsense, you will agree. And the person always spoke beautifully and correctly.

"You think a career is so bad? The one who leads is the person who does his utmost and who doesn't spare himself..."

His subordinates led in a crosscountry race at one of the inspections and everyone stayed within the norm for outstanding to the last man. When he already had departed with a promotion to a new duty station we learned that half of the crosscountry distance had been covered by substitutes, but the train already had left...

It is easy to write about what happened. It is difficult to write about what is happening. We feel and assume a great deal. The category of feelings is not a matter of protocol; it is complicated to register. Nevertheless, a careerist gives himself away often, albeit not always.

I remember how some 1½ years ago Col K. Agafonov, secretary of the party commission of the Central Asian Military District political directorate, told about the personal affair of party member Officer V. Turkovskiy, which was being examined as a control. Turkovskiy already had been punished by a lower echelon but the party commission of the district political directorate gave him a stricter punishment. When he was informed of this, he exclaimed:

"How can that be? It turns out that I won't receive the next rank for another entire year yet?"

I didn't have occasion to meet Turkovskiy at that time, but I had a recent meeting with another officer.

I was traveling to see him and was thinking how a person who until recently had been a unit commander and was given a lower assignment would appear and feel.

Lean, tightly strapped, polished and ironed--that is how I saw him during a morning parade for classes. Maj A. Pilipenko stood in common formation among headquarters officers and on being introduced didn't appear at all as a dispirited person. He was living without his family in expectation of an apartment. His roommate in the officer dormitory was on leave and I forced myself on him for three days' stay.

He wasn't angry at the entire world; he was irritated primarily with himself and with certain persons who, as he believed, had left him in the lurch, especially Yevgeniy Petrovich.

"Before, when he would arrive," he recalled, "it would always be 'Tolik, Tolik, Tolik, arrange a fishing trip. Tolik, we need a creel of fish... We have to fix up a vehicle for a certain good man...' And I would gyrate as if I were in a circus..."

"What position does Yevgeniy Petrovich hold?"

"He is done with it... He was pensioned off. But he was my chief. It would have been simple for him to help me."

"Do you regret that you were demoted in position?"

"It's always painful to fall..."

Well, of course, it's painful to fall but in order to fall, one first must ascend somewhere. Maj Anatoliy Pilipenko went up the career ladder at an accelerated pace.

He grew up in a serviceman's family. His parents, Mariya Isakovna and Viktor Dmitriyevich, live in Sverdlovsk, in the city from which Anatoliy left for school. He naturally heard conversations in the family about service, about advancements in military rank and about new positions. His father would say:

"One must begin service on the periphery. A sensible officer is always more noticeable there..."

Pilipenko commanded a platoon for a year. Two years later he entered the next job step, then went even higher.

It is difficult to say at what moment he overstepped the limit where the important thing for him was not the job which he was called upon to serve but he himself and his personal ego in this job. In any case, he didn't want to repeat the service biography of his first battalion commander, Lt Col Trofimov. According to Pilipenko's thinking it was absurd to express one's opinion aloud each time as Trofimov did. And so Trofimov went into the reserve in the rank of lieutenant colonel, although he could have received a third star according to his abilities.

That is what Pilipenko believed and he put himself out to please senior officers and fulfill their every request. But he also realized that good indicators also are needed for authority. It was then he decided on eyewash. The question would arise as to why send up a report that a particular subordinate committed a disciplinary infraction, for he could take steps on his own! And he did, but in such a way that there was no extensive publicity.

But publicity still occurred, and at a most inopportune moment, when the question of his advancement was to be decided. Among his subordinates there also was someone who in some ways resembled former battalion commander Trofimov: the quiet, taciturn Capt V. Bulyga...

"And so," said Pilipenko, grinning philosophically, "instead of rising to the next level, I dropped an entire two levels lower..."

Do you sense what there is in common? Turkovskiy about the next rank and Pilipenko about job steps. Only it is not about the people who were done moral damage by their methods of leadership, not about the job and not about the substance of infractions which were committed.

For a careerist people are only a springboard for advancement. He himself also is dangerous in that the virus of easy advancement along the career ladder is infectious. A person who is weak and inclined to envy make take this for a norm and begin to think that conscientious work is not the important thing for job growth.

Unfortunately it is not always that such party members as the taciturn Capt Bulyga or the principled Lt Col Trofimov are encountered along a careerist's path. And the feelings of those around him may not always develop into a documentary confirmation and be backed up by an authoritative "Stop!" One must set hopes more on those who are obligated by duty to study the political, job and moral qualities of an officer before advancing him in position and rank.

Pilipenko and Turkovskiy had the most superb performance appraisals. Because of the elapsed time it probably makes no sense to recall those who signed them at one time without thoroughly studying their subordinates as required by party and official norms.

Advancement to a position is a person's test of strength. Duty and position are words with the same root. That is why the responsibility of people with the right to advance, sign and approve is so great.

Before submitting this article for type-setting I made inquiries to find out just how the further destiny of those whom I mentioned here shaped up. My old colleague Golin was released to the reserve ahead of schedule. It is said that Pilipenko and Turkovskiy are serving excellently. That means the halt was timely if it permitted looking back and drawing conclusions. Political department chief Lt Col V. Aydynyan, with whom I began my notes, received the rank of colonel and recently departed for one of the remote posts with an advancement. He left with a quiet conscience. We met before his departure and I asked:

"Back to the taiga? Don't you regret parting with the big city?"

"Of course I do."

"On the other hand, the prospects..."

"It's still early to talk about this. And so don't mention my name if possible."

But I thought it over and decided to mention it.

ARMED FORCES

OBITUARIES FOR LT GEN A. F. KUBASOV, MAJ GEN I. A. CHERNOBROVKIN

Obituary of A. F. Kubasov

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 27 May 84 p 4

[Obituary of A. F. Kubasov]

[Text] After a severe and extended illness, the participant of the Great Patriotic War, Lt Gen (Ret) Aleksey Fedorovich Kubasov has died. He devoted all his adult life to the wholehearted service of the socialist motherland and to the cause of the Communist Party in the ranks of which he has stood since 1941.

A. F. Kubasov was born in 1905 in the city of Gorkiy in a white collar family. He joined the Soviet Army in 1927. He moved up through its ranks from officer candidate to lieutenant general. In all the posts the party entrusted to him, A. F. Kubasov carried out his military duty with a feeling of great responsibility. From 1941 through 1944, he took an active part in the battles against the Nazi invaders and showed great courage and valor. He ended the Great Patriotic War in the position of formation commander.

In the postwar period, having completed the Military Academy of the General Staff of the USSR Armed Forces imeni K. Ye. Voroshilov, A. F. Kubasov worked fruitfully in responsible command and staff positions in the troops and in the central apparatus of the Ground Forces. He was marked by party principledness, by a feeling of high responsibility for the assigned job and by exactingness for himself and subordinates as well as sensitivity and attention to others. In possessing great organizational abilities and rich frontline experience, A. F. Kubasov made a weighty contribution to increasing the combat readiness of the Ground Forces.

The Soviet motherland had high regard for the accomplishments of A. F. Kubasov, having awarded him two Orders of Lenin, three Orders of the Red Banner, the Order of Suvorov 2d Degree, three Orders of the Red Star and many medals.

The bright memory of Aleksey Fedorovich Kubasov, the loyal son of the Communist Party and the Soviet people, will always remain in our hearts.

[signed] V. I. Petrov, M. D. Popkov, A. M. Mayorov, D. A. Grinkevich, S. Kh. Aganov, M. G. Khomulo, Yu. M. Potapov, V. M. Mikhalkin, V. K. Pikalov,

Yu. M. Andrianov, Kh. M. Ambaryan, P. I. Bazhenov, Yu. A. Naumenko, I. F. Arkhipov, V. Ya. Lebedev, M. A. Artem'yev.

Obituary of I. A. Chernobrovkin

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 31 May 84 p 4

[Obituary of I. A. Chernobrovkin]

[Text] After an extended and severe illness at the age of 66, Maj Gen (Ret) Ivan Andreyevich Chernobrovkin, a CPSU member since 1940, passed away.

I. A. Chernobrovkin was born in 1919 in the village of Pokrovskoye, Yelabuzhskiy Rayon of the Tatar ASSR. In 1938, he joined the ranks of the Red Army. During the years of the Great Patriotic War, he was involved in the training of officer personnel in one of the infantry schools and showed high command and instructor qualities.

In the postwar period, he completed the Military Academy imeni M. V. Frunze and for more than 30 years held responsible positions in the Main Personnel Directorate of the USSR Ministry of Defense.

The services of I. A. Chernobrovkin to the motherland have been recognized by two Orders of the Red Star, two Orders of the Honor Badge and many medals.

The bright memory of Ivan Andreyevich Chernobrovkin will always remain in our hearts.

[signed] A group of comrades.

10272

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ARMED FORCES

EDUCATIONAL SIGNIFICANCE OF MILITARY TRIBUNAL ASSIZES

Moscow SOVETSKAYA YUSTITSIYA in Russian No 9, May 84 pp 18-19

[Article by Honored Jurist of the RSFSR, Col Justice I. Chupalenkov and Lt Col Justice A. Beznasyuk: "The Indoctrinational Significance of the Traveling Military Tribunal Assizes"]

[Text] One of the most important tasks for the Soviet court, including the military tribunal, is indoctrinating discipline and self-discipline. The successful carrying out of this task is ensured by the fact that the military tribunals, like all the courts in the USSR, exercise jurisprudence on the basis of extensive publicity which helps to shape public opinion, mobilize the community to fight against various infractions and for strict and unswerving fulfillment of the requirements of the USSR Constitution, the Soviet laws, the military oath and the military regulations.

The courts of the military tribunals in the Moscow Military District review around 60 percent of all the cases in the troop units themselves.

As practice shows, the traveling court trials are one of the effective means for indoctrinating the servicemen in respect for the laws and their unswerving fulfillment. Thus, in questioning, a majority of the servicemen pointed out that their presence at the trial was beneficial for them and they drew lessons from it and became persuaded of the inexorability of punishment for guilty parties and the justice of the Soviet laws.

However, a proper indoctrinational effect can be found only in that court trial which has been carefully prepared and is conducted with maximum clarity. This in many ways depends upon the coordinated and joint work of the judges, the judge advocate, the commanders and political workers.

A characteristic feature of the court trials in the military units is that the command and the political bodies are actively involved in their preparation and organization and they direct and shape public opinion, they widely utilize the materials from the court trials in political indoctrination and in the necessary instances hold meetings for the officers and sergeants and certain categories of servicemen, for example, drivers and materially responsible persons.

The plans for the political and organizational support of the court trials are drawn up, as a rule, by the political workers with the involvement of the courts and the judge advocates and are approved by the unit commanders.

The representatives of the army community elected at the meetings of the personnel as public prosecutors and public defenders can be permitted to participate in the court sessions only in the instance that the petition of the personnel for this has been approved by the unit commander. This is explained by one of the underlying principles in the organization and activities of the USSR Armed Forces, the principle of one-man leadership.

In our district there are numerous examples of a good organization of the court trials. The joint plans for political and organizational support are drawn up ahead of time and these include such questions as the informing of the personnel on the trial, talks and reports in legal questions, the selecting and instructing of the public prosecutors, the preparation of the quarters and the making up of their visual agitation and ensuring the attendance of the personnel. Basic attention is given to explaining the sentences of the military tribunals.

The court processes are skillfully organized and conducted in the troop units by Honored Jurist of the RSFSR, Col Justice N. Moiseyev, Cols Justice K. Seliverstrov, Z. Zaretskiy, L. Gorbunov and V. Fadeyev, Majs Justice Yu. Semin and G. Samylov and Capt Justice V. Safronov.

Well organized and conducted on a high political and professional level was the court trial at a military unit involving the case of Pfc D. who was accused of committing crimes provided under Part 1, Article 144 and Point "a" of Article 246 of the RSFSR Penal Code.

"First of all," explained the chairman of the case, Col Justice N. Moiseyev, "I visited the unit where the crime was committed, I spoke with the commander and his deputy for political affairs and we agreed upon the place and time for examining the case. Then along with the judge advocate, I helped the unit commander draw up a plan for organizational and political measures related to the holding of the court trial. The commanders, the political workers and the judge advocate officers gave talks in the subunits in the context of this case."

The court session on the case started at the precisely designated time at the unit's clubhouse.

The participants in the court investigation by their precise observance of the legally prescribed procedural form, by their manner and by their exemplary appearance helped to establish a professional and at the same time solemn situation in the courtroom.

The chairman of the case clearly directed the court session, he led it calmly and was equally polite, correct, even handed and attentive toward all the participants of the trial. The people's assessors, WO ["Praporshchik"] V. Yushkov and Sgt V. Kornev actively participated in studying the evidence and asked questions of the accused and witnesses. This was largely helped by the fact that they had previously been acquainted with the materials of the case and ahead of time, before the court, had talked with the chairman on all the questions related to the examination of the given case.

In the questioning of the accused by the chairman, the people's assessors, the state and public prosecutors and the defender, the answers were listened to carefully.

The early compilation of a well thought out plan and the clarity of the questions asked and the oral rulings of the judges contributed to the effective carrying out of the court inquest.

An active part in the court session was taken by the public prosecutor, Pvt A. Trandofilov and his speech in the oral statements was clear and persuasive. This was achieved due to the fact that he had been acquainted ahead of time with the materials of the case and in preparing for the court investigation he had been given the necessary aid by the state prosecutor.

Informative and intelligent was the speech by the state prosecutor, Maj Justice A. Podkolzin, listened to with great attention by those present.

The chairman gave the sentence clearly and unhurriedly. He explained the essence of the sentence in comprehensible words, without any commentary. Also persuasive was the fact that the sentence was understandable to the defendant while the chairman explained the order and date for its appeal as well as the right to become acquainted with the verbatim record of the court session.

In the opinion of the unit commander and his deputy for political affairs who were present at this court session, the trial was carried out in such a manner that everyone present condemned the crimes of D., they unanimously approved the sentence, they were persuaded it was just, they analyzed the reasons for the infraction and drew a useful lesson for themselves for the future.

Extensive explanatory work was carried out in subsequent days after the court hearing. Meetings were held for the officers as well as for the sergeants and where they discussed the reasons and conditions which contributed to the committing of the crimes by D. and outlined additional measures to strengthen military discipline and ensure unswerving fulfillment of the requirements. In all the subunits, meetings were held on legal subjects, in particular, on responsibility for draft evasion, on the requirements of the military oath and regulations, on military comradeship and other questions. Individual talks were also held with certain servicemen. The military lawyers took an active part in this work.

The sentence of the military tribunal after it had come into legal force, in accord with the order of the unit commander, was announced to all the personnel.

Such a court trial and the related measures helped to strengthen military discipline and reduce infractions in the unit.

Although a predominant majority of the court trials in the military units are conducted on a high level, there still are shortcomings in this work. There are instances of their breaking down as a result of the lack of organization of the case chairman, in particular, due to the delayed delivery of a copy of the findings or the delayed forwarding of the court agendas to the victims and witnesses.

The procedure is not always properly observed for conducting the meetings of personnel to choose the representatives of the army community for participation in the court trial and because of this instances are encountered when persons are chosen as public prosecutors who do not have the right to participate as

such (chiefs or subordinates of the defendants or witnesses) and whom the court must prohibit from participating in the court session. This reduces the indoctrinational impact of the court trials.

For certain cases there has been a passivity shown by the people's assessors and public prosecutors in the court trial and this can be explained by their insufficient preparation for the case.

In a number of instances the reasons and conditions contributing to the commission of crimes are not brought out with sufficient clarity. There have been instances of familiarity in exchanges between the participants of the court trial, violations of tact shown toward persons being questioned and the asking of insufficiently clear or loaded questions. All of this reduces the level of the indoctrinational impact of the court trials.

In the aim of eliminating the existing shortcomings and further increasing the indoctrinational effect from the court trials conducted in the troop units, the military tribunal together with the district judge advocate have periodically generalized the practice of organizing and conducting such trials. For this purpose the judges of the district military tribunal have been present at the court trials conducted by the military tribunals of the garrison, they have given them the necessary help in their preparation and conduct and have drawn attention to the shortcomings. The results of the generalization are made known to all the judges and judge advocates in the district and this helps to further increase the level of the open court trials.

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10272

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ARMED FORCES

MORE AZERBAIJANIS IN HIGHER MILITARY SCHOOLS

[Editorial Report] Baku KOMMUNIST in Azeri 15 April 1984 page 2 carries a 500-word Azerinform report noting that "the number of those wishing to enter higher military schools is increasing annually. In the last year alone there were more than 1200 from Azerbaijan of which two-thirds were representatives of the local nationality."

KRASNAYA ZVEZDA IDENTIFIES OFFICER

PM301021 [Editorial Report] Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 26 July 1984 Second Edition carries on page 2 a 200-word own correspondent report from the Transbaykal military district on a meeting of the district's Komsomol Aktiv, reportedly attended by "Lieutenant General P. Ledyayev, first deputy commander of the district."

CSO: 1801/395

GROUND FORCES

COMPLEX MOUNTAIN VALLEY EXERCISE REVIEWED

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 16 Jun 84 p 2

[Article by Lt A. Barabash, Red Banner Turkestan Military District: "A Diversionary Maneuver"]

[Text] The airborne battalion commanded by Maj A. Soluyanov was in pursuit of the "enemy." It appeared that one more rush and the airborne personnel would catch up with the retreating subunit and prevent it from slipping out of the defile. Suddenly a narrative problem came in: machinegun bursts had come down on the column of airborne combat vehicles from the flank and mortar rounds had begun to burst next to vehicles of the technical maintenance echelon. It became clear that the battalion had fallen into a difficult spot. The "enemy" was trying to lock the column in the gorge.

Night became the airborne personnel's ally. The airborne combat vehicles froze, guardedly bristling with guns and machineguns. Boulders showered down among the posts. An unsteady quiet set in, ready to burst at any instant. Deprived of an opportunity to conduct aimed fire, the "enemy" apparently decided to wait until dawn. There was nowhere to hurry: the engines below had fallen silent.

Feeling out the map with the beam of a flashlight, Maj Soluyanov sought an exit from the trap. The column couldn't be deployed in such a narrow defile and the "enemy" surely had managed to stop up the routes of withdrawal with mines and fougasses. "Now if we could manage to shift at least two vehicles to the plateau from which we could fire on the 'enemy' ambush," reflected the battalion commander. "Nevertheless, such a maneuver can't be accomplished stealthily--the engines would give it away. But we probably would succeed in taking the machinegunners and rocket launcher personnel there unnoticed." When the decision matured Maj Soluyanov summoned platoon commander Lt M. Ivanenko.

Lt Ivanenko took over the platoon not long ago after completing military school, but even in the short time he had shown his best side. The young officer works seriously with subordinates, especially on mountain training. He taught the soldiers not only to use mountaineering gear skillfully, to assault the cliffs and preserve endurance under high-mountain conditions, but also to accomplish tactical missions skillfully: hitting targets accurately on

steep slopes, collecting a prisoner for interrogation silently, and using equipment where it would appear impossible to do so. The platoon's airborne personnel had emerged the winners in the mountain training center more than once during the winter training period.

...In a few minutes Lt Ivanenko was at the battalion commander's side. Maj Soluyanov was not about to explain the situation in detail. It had been extremely clear to everyone from the moment they had assumed a perimeter defense. Indicating a point on the map, the battalion commander said: "Your platoon has to move here. With the mission..." Soluyanov also spoke briefly about the mission. It was complicated.

Lt Ivanenko set off for the platoon without delay. He had little time to study the route, for adjusting the personnel's gear and for working with the NCO's. The summer night is short.

Soon, pressing to the cliffs and plunging into crevices, the file of airborne personnel left the battalion main body farther and farther behind. The entire platoon didn't make its way to the plateau: Ivanenko had chosen only the most experienced and hardy. WO [Praporshchik] V. Vasil'yev, the best mountain-climber in the battalion who repeatedly found a way out of the most unfavorable situations, went first. Sgt N. Fotiyev was behind him, bending under the weight of a machinegun and pack with ammunition. Sgt A. Pavlenko and Pvt Ye. Nachinov were closest to Lt Ivanenko, who brought up the rear of the group.

They crossed the first obstacle--a steep rock wall--easily if one doesn't count the knees scraped until they bled and hands scratched on the prickly bushes. But there was almost disaster on a rocky spur which covered the exit from a crevice. In the darkness one of the soldiers stepped on a so-called "live" rock. Fortunately it was successfully pressed down promptly and stopped on its way to the precipice, otherwise it would have triggered the "enemy."

When the steepness of the cliffs abated and then an entirely level area appeared beneath their feet, Lt Ivanenko took a look at the luminous dial of his watch. The airborne personnel had spent two hours on the way.

"A record," grinned the platoon commander to himself. "It's a pity that they aren't registered in combat..."

The airborne soldiers chose firing positions. Setting up behind rocks, each one realized that the most difficult part would begin at dawn. For now they had to fortify themselves with granite so as to withstand the hail of fire.

...At the designated time the group struck the "enemy" strongpoint with bursts of a machinegun and rocket launcher. They struck from above, from an unexpected direction, disheartening the "enemy" and forcing him to reorganize the entire fire plan. This was not simple to do: the guns of the airborne combat vehicles already were booming from below. Now one could only guess just who was in the trap: the airborne soldiers or the "enemy" who was waiting for them.

Lt Ivanenko saw through the chinks between the rocks that the "enemy" was hastily abandoning the convenient, previously invulnerable firing positions, slipping over the hill and opening up the exit from the defile. There on the expanses he couldn't get the better of the airborne soldiers.

Soon Lt Ivanenko and his subordinates caught up with the subunit and reported mission accomplishment. Before a battalion formation Maj Soluyanov shook the hand of each one who helped win victory in such a difficult practice combat by diverting the "enemy's" attention to himself.

6904

CSO: 1801/360

GROUND FORCES

ARTILLERISTS URGED TO OBSERVE TACTICS, FOLLOW WHOLE 'BATTLE'

Moscow KRSNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 21 Jun 84 p 1

[Article by Col V. Zababurin, Red Banner Odessa Military District: "In Isolation from Tactics"]

[Text] In supporting the motorized rifle subunit, the artillery battalion commanded by Maj Ye. Rud' neutralized the defenders' weapons. Gun crews operated cohesively and knowledgeably and fired accurately, but then the situation changed: the "enemy" halted the attackers after sharply stepping up fire. Now much depended on the artillerymen's skill. Every second counted. Maj Rud' quickly prepared new firing data and gave the command to the firing positions without delay. The very first round burst on line with the target but a bit to the right. The rangefinder operator intersected the burst and determined the distance to it.

Just how did the officer in charge of firing proceed further? He made a line correction and designated several rounds for registration, then introduced a correction and finally gave the command for opening up fire for effect. Did the operating procedure correspond to the tactical situation? I asked this question of Maj Rud' when quiet had descended on the positions.

"Why should I take a risk?" answered the battalion commander and clarified: "I performed my mission with the rangefinder in the sequence customary for artillerymen."

Yes, Maj Rud' avoided risk and acted with a guarantee, as the saying goes. But while the artillerymen were "performing their mission," the motorized riflemen were under powerful "enemy" fire pressure and suffered losses. The battalion could shift to fire for effect after the first rather successful round. I am sure that in actual combat Maj Rud' and his subordinates would proceed in just that way.

Unfortunately the instances where artillerymen perform fire missions in firings outside of contact with tactics are not isolated. I had occasion to analyze the fire of a battery commanded by Capt A. Duliienko. The tactical situation above all required destruction of those targets which represented greatest danger for motorized riflemen and threatened to disrupt their attack.

But the officer preferred to fire against targets prescribed for the specific mission. The fire was by itself and the tactics was by itself.

The artillery training course regulates practically all aspects of fire and fire control. The document orients one toward observing the priority of tactics, but this requirement often is violated. In some artillery unit staffs the schedules for performing missions under the artillery training course and plans for fire and fire control training sessions are simplified and isolated from tactics, as it were. Merely the numbers of tasks and dates they were worked are placed opposite the officers' names.

I can foresee the objection: each instructor diversifies conditions for fulfilling fire missions and invariably creates a tactical background. Yes, a background really is created, but it far from always influences the firer and complicates his actions. That was the case, for example, in the unit where Lt Col V. Pirogov is the artillery chief. Classes were arranged under the following format. The officer in charge of firing--the battalion or battery commander--would place trainees in the tactical situation. There would be stereotyped phrases such as: "You observe the forward movement of reserves..." or "The motorized rifle battalion whose actions you are supporting has moved to a line..." The officer who is to accomplish the fire mission didn't listen to them very much. He knew that regardless of the tactical background he would have to hit those targets prescribed by a particular mission. In summing up the results of fire the instructor would out-and-out forget about the tactical situation he had set up and would evaluate the firer's actions only based on the results of fire and fire control. What do such oversimplifications lead to? They impoverish the artillerymen's training.

Conditions under which tactics would determine the fire must be set up in joint tactical field fire exercises, in independent exercises of artillery subunits, and when performing fire missions using means of simulation. One mustn't choose a tactical background which would permit operating in conformity with a customary stereotype. We cannot be reconciled with the fact that in some exercises tankmen and motorized riflemen accomplish their own missions and artillerymen accomplish their own. I recently observed a situation where motorized riflemen were repelling a counterattack to their utmost while artillerymen under cover behind a forest plantation were resting--they allegedly already had worked the prescribed missions.

Such a thing would be impossible in a unit or subunit where people cherish every opportunity to perfect tactical training. For example, practices for officers in fire and fire control directed by Lt Col A. Kulikov seem to me to be very instructive. In this class the firers not only accomplished individual fire missions; they controlled the artillerymen's combat, fired registration points, determined adjusted corrections and passed them to higher headquarters where officers of the other subunits could use them. One sensed a heightened interest in tactics.

Artillerymen's training involves the practice of numerous actions and techniques of the same type. It is extremely important that the same techniques and typical missions be practiced each time in a varying situation as applied to different kinds of combat.

AIR/AIR DEFENSE FORCES

OUTSTANDING JET PILOT PROFILED

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 5 Jun 84 p 1

[Article by Maj A. Podolyan: "In an Attack Flight"]

[Text] A tactical flight exercise was underway with actual firing. The radio controlled target could be clearly seen on the radar screens. It was "picked up" at maximum range and steadily tracked to the point where fighters scrambled. Soon a pair of interceptors was in the air. But when they began to turn for the attack, the situation changed abruptly. Another characteristic blip appeared on the screens. The "enemy," endeavoring to break through to the defended installation, had sacrificed the target flying at a medium altitude and in utilizing the terrain features had sent a second one to the prohibited line. The scrambled interceptors could not make the attack. Then the commander took the decision:

"730, into the air!"

There are many commands in aviation, but this is a special one. It obliged the pilot with those call numbers to take off immediately.

Military Pilot 1st Class, Maj S. Shelestovskiy was in the rec room when the command came. And then everything went as it had many times before: he immediately put on his helmet, he started up the fighter and made a rapid take-off....

Since childhood, Stanislav [Shelestovskiy] dreamed of becoming a military man. And when he completed 11th grade, there was no doubt as to the choice of his further career: "I will be a military pilot!"

His happiness was as vast as the skies when he saw himself on the list of those admitted to the Chernigov Higher Military Air Pilots School imeni Leninskiy Komsomol.

The future air fighter was skillfully trained by the fighter pilots Sr Lts N. Lavrinenkov, I. Il'yashenko and V. Krupskiy. They showed Shelestovskiy the secrets of professional skill and taught him to understand others and to work with them. And both in service and off duty. All of this came in useful when the lieutenant arrived in the air fighter regiment. From his very first independent steps he critically assessed his own actions and success did not go to

his head. The authority of the young officer strengthened and grew in the collective. Two years later, Shelestovskiy received the qualification of military pilot 2d class and soon thereafter became a 1st class pilot. The communists elected him a member of the squadron party bureau. The confidence of his comrades inspired him but also forced him to be even stricter with his personal preparation. Upon the recommendation of senior chiefs, he switched to political work.

The military byroads brought the officer to the Turkestan Military District. Initially the sand, heat and dust storms were unfamiliar to him. And it also happened that the skies tested him. Once in the air beyond the clouds he got into a difficult situation. But he did not lose his head. Together with his leader, he broke through the clouds, made an emergency lowering of the wheels and landed safely.

Maj Shelestovskiy is always with the men. And they come to him seeking advice and suggesting new ways to increase combat readiness.

...The fighter closed with the target. In every nerve Maj Shelestovskiy felt the tension of the developing situation. The "enemy" was coming ever-closer to the intercept line. A turn and then a climb...there is was! The first instructor had taught Shelestovskiy that the enemy was dangerous as long as it could not be seen. He detected it promptly and made his first confident step to victory.

The target was rushing to the right. At that moment the pilot picked it up in the sight hairs. A few seconds of closing and then launch! The lightning of the missile flashed beneath the wing and a few instants later the fragments of the target hit the desert sands in flames.

A climb, a turn and the heading home. Maj Shelestovskiy was returning to his airfield. He still did not know that from the results of his combat work in this tactical flight exercise he had become the leader of the competition.

10272

CSO: 1801/344

AIR/AIR DEFENSE FORCES

AIR DEFENSE IN MOUNTAINOUS AREAS DISCUSSED

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 21 Jun 84 p 2

[Article by Maj M. Mordvintsev, Red Banner Transcaucasus Military District:
"The Commander and Modern Combat: A Fire Ambush"]

[Text] The surface-to-air missile [SAM] battery commanded by Capt V. Strezheus was providing cover for motorized riflemen in a tactical exercise. The "enemy" was attempting to deliver a bombing strike against them, for which he was using the following technique: he sent some of the aircraft in a demonstration raid while he took the attack group of fighter-bombers to the target at low altitude using a gorge. But nothing came of this: the air defense personnel's tactically competent actions disrupted the "enemy" scheme.

When coordination was being detailed Capt Strezheus studied the terrain down to the fine points. As part of the ground reconnaissance team he examined all likely routes of "enemy" approach. To have broader information the battery commander contacted the reconnaissance subunit commander, who had a rather good knowledge of mountain relief in the depth of the opposing side's defense.

All this allowed making a substantiated decision. Capt Strezheus selected the primary and alternate launch positions so as to have a good view of the gorge through which the penetration of aircraft was possible. The commander's foresight also was based on a knowledge of the air "enemy's" tactics and combat capabilities.

As Capt Strezheus assumed, the "enemy" chose this very route to deliver a strike. The appearance of aircraft in the gorge was no surprise. The battery commander immediately performed a redistribution of targets and issued the order for their destruction, and the combat mission was executed.

At a critique of the tactical exercise the senior chief recognized Capt Strezheus as an officer of initiative. This praise fully characterizes the command qualities of the officer who heads an outstanding battery and who has worked much to improve his professional expertise. The battery commander gives special attention to the operators and to making the missile guidance radar team cohesive. He teaches subordinates following the principle "Do as I do." The officer can perform the duties of any team member successfully. Capt Strezheus not only is an experienced methods specialist, but a good tactician as well.

"Listen to Capt Strezheus' decision," often says the commander to the officers during short tactical training problems. "Again he is suggesting a nonstandard solution..."

Such short training problems actively contribute to the development of air defense officers' tactical thinking. As a rule they are organized on the terrain and each time at a new location. The class instructor assigns the mission to trainees and each officer reports his decision. Deputy battery commanders and the chiefs of launcher teams also began to be included in the discussion of combat variants in the current training year. As a result young officers also are mastering the fine points of tactical training under mountain conditions. In addition the deputies are gaining skills in acting as the battery commander, i.e., one level higher than the position they hold.

In discussing solution variants each participant of the short tactical training problem expresses his own opinion. The most optimum version is found as a result of collective discussion.

Recent military school graduate Lt N. Fonov distinguished himself in one of the exercises. Having taken the battery commander's place he successfully directed the actions of air defense personnel who were using their fire to cover motorized riflemen and tankmen accomplishing the mission of seizing a pass. By the way, he was helped greatly by the short tactical training problems in which similar variants of actions were discussed.

Of course the short training problems represent a good form for developing air defense officers' tactical thinking, but the field and actions in a near-combat situation have been and remain most important. We make it a regular practice to make trips to the mountains and hold joint actions with motorized riflemen and tankmen. The results of each problem and exercise are analyzed thoroughly and their lessons are adopted by all officers.

In one tactical exercise, for example, battery commander Maj Ye. Vinogradov chose a launch position which did not fully meet requirements for conducting combat in the mountains. At first glance he made a mistake that was not very substantial, but later during a raid by the air "enemy" the consequences of the miscalculation had a very telling effect.

"Terrain relief was not considered," said the commander in critiquing the officer's mistake. "The launchers should have been placed with consideration of the relief."

But Maj Vinogradov did not realize his mistake at once. Then a trip to the terrain was organized for all battery commanders and their deputies. The lesson was instructive, and not only for Vinogradov, but also for Capt V. Svetashev, who was obligated in line of duty to keep the battery commander from making a mistake in choosing a launch position. But Svetashev did not do this. To what did this lead? The air defense personnel could have received an outstanding grade, but through the fault of the battery which was not able to fire due to large angles of crest clearance, they received only a

satisfactory grade. At that time the airborne targets had to be destroyed by other subunits.

It stands to reason that people do not learn only from mistakes, but also above all from positive examples. One other form of conducting short tactical training problems became established with us immediately after that exercise. The staff draws up a mission in advance which is made known to all battery commanders simultaneously. Several versions of solutions are thought out. After independent preparation the battery commanders report how they organize combat actions in the given situation, and they also refer to instructive examples from practical experience.

During such a discussion, for example, Capt A. Sokolov shared the experience of actions in organizing a fire ambush. In that exercise the battery he commanded was covering a subunit which had been assigned the mission of making a lengthy march, moving into the "enemy" rear and seizing a pass by a surprise attack. Coordinating his efforts with the motorized rifle subunit commander, Capt Sokolov developed the most expedient operating tactics.

As the battery commander anticipated, "enemy" aircraft appeared specifically from the direction where he had set up a fire ambush, but the aviators just were not able to accomplish the assigned mission: they came under effective air defense fire. Thus a good knowledge of the terrain and a broad tactical outlook helped Capt Sokolov make a competent decision and execute it in practice.

It is noteworthy that in that same exercise Sokolov advised the motorized rifle battalion commander to cover the defile into which detachment columns were to extend in a few hours. In Sokolov's opinion, should the "enemy" discover the detachment's movement, he would attempt to make barriers with the help of bombing attacks or wait until the main body drew into the defile and deliver a strike against it.

The precautionary measures taken by the motorized rifle battalion commander were not superfluous, as it later turned out; they played their role in successful accomplishment of the combat mission.

At the present time we have generalized the experience of successful subunit actions in fire ambushes and are widely adopting it with the beginning of the summer training period.

6904

CSO: 1801/360

AIR/AIR DEFENSE FORCES

HELICOPTER PILOTS RECEIVE AWARD FOR LANDING DAMAGED CRAFT

Moscow KRSNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 23 Jun 84 p 6

[Article by KRSNAYA ZVEZDA correspondent Capt-Lt M. Lukanin, Twice-Honored Red Banner Baltic Fleet: "Exploit of the Helicopter Pilots"]

[Text] USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium Ukase
awarding the Order of Red Star to Capt I. O. Pustovit
and the Combat Merit medal to Sr Lt S. V. Konovalov.
For courage and valor displayed in performance of military
duty, award:
The Order of Red Star to Capt Igor' Olegovich Pustovit
and the Combat Merit medal to Sr Lt Sergey Vasil'yevich
Konovalov.

Chairman of USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium K. Chernenko
Secretary of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium T.
Menteshashvili.
Moscow, the Kremlin.
22 June 1984

The helicopter crew was flying a difficult route, with many kilometers still remaining to the destination airfield. The square figures of fields stretched out below, with a forest rising in serrated rows ahead on the horizon.

"Take a rest," crew commander Capt I. Pustovit told copilot Sr Lt S. Konovalov, but the latter indicated by a gesture that he wasn't tired. He was interested in observing the commander control the helicopter. It was not by chance that he had been so persistent in requesting assignment to the crew of Pustovit, a helicopter pilot recognized as an ace in the unit.

It is rare that everyone in a subunit is of the same enthusiastic opinion about a person, but that is how colleagues regarded Pustovit. The impression was such that all people in his unit were close friends.

Igor' Pustovit is a hereditary aviator, arriving in Naval Aviation in the footsteps of his father, Oleg Fedorovich Pustovit, now a colonel.

Igor' studied at the Syzran Higher Military Aviation School for Pilots imeni 60th Anniversary of the USSR, and he studied excellently. Under the rubric "Pride of the School," Cadet I. Pustovit, subunit party organization secretary, was given an entire page in the district newspaper ZA RODINU in 1979. Cited there in particular was an episode from his beginning flight career. Pustovit entered stormclouds on a training flight but was able to take the helicopter out of the danger zone without getting confused.

It was then that Pustovit showed an ability to act coolly under difficult circumstances.

...The helicopter was approaching the forest. No one in the crew as yet suspected that in a few minutes they would end up in a difficult situation--there would be a jolt as if the helicopter had flown into an obstacle. The craft would be thrown sharply into a bank.

"Be calm!" demanded Pustovit, more to himself than to the other crew members. People's lives were now in his, the commander's, hands.

"Navigator, report course."

And immediately following the report:

"We're going to land."

The instructions which Pustovit issued in an even voice to Lt Konovalov inspired the crew's confidence in their own abilities. The rotary-wing craft continued to be thrown about as if on gigantic bumps. The important thing was not to enter a dive.

In critiquing the crew's actions in the extreme situation later, even the specialists were surprised that the aviators had not made the slightest incorrect decision. They had acted as if an EVM [electronic computer] was prompting them. The fact is that in such a situation the helicopter should have been spinning like a top. Nevertheless they landed it precisely in a clearing several meters from the forest.

6904

CSO: 1801/360

AIR/AIR DEFENSE FORCES

GROUND DEFENSE OF ANTI-AIR POSITIONS PRACTICED

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 23 Jun 84 p 1

[Article by KRASNAYA ZVEZDA correspondent Col V. Nagornyy: "Missilemen Defend the Position"]

[Text] The signal flare, tracing an extended fiery arc with a hiss, burned the low, heavy clouds and went out somewhere in their midst. Immediately the sector of range, swept by a cold wind from all sides, came alive as if rousing itself. A group of people separated from the launch position of the surface-to-air missile [SAM] subunit, accelerating the pace all the while. The camouflage coloration of the clothing reliably concealed the column against the background of the dull grayish-green steppe. But then the formation easily broke up into squads and after just a little while the missilemen efficiently and without fuss occupied trenches of the strongpoint organized in advance, which covered approaches to the battalion location. Maj V. Zemtsov directed the group's actions.

That was the beginning of a demonstration problem which had the purpose of working lessons in defense of a launch position.

Not even a few minutes had gone by after the strongpoint was occupied when observer Pvt K. Mekhdiyev reported the appearance of "enemy" helicopters. It became clear that a reconnaissance-sabotage team was preparing to land. Maj Zemtsov's supposition soon was confirmed. Infantrymen who landed pushed toward the launch position at a speed marching step and in rushes. Tanks and APC's appeared almost simultaneously from behind the red sandhills. It seemed the "enemy" would have no difficulty achieving the attack objective so as to destroy the launchers and radars, but then the skillfully camouflaged strongpoint bristled with furious fire.

Long before the trip to the range the subunit was preparing intensively to ensure that no narrative problem in the exercise would catch it unawares. Personnel mastered the tactics of conducting combined-arms combat, with special attention given to weapons training. Under the direction of officers, skilled operators privates V. Gornichar and A. Nurmatov persistently learned the secrets of accurate fire with the hand-held antitank rocket launcher and fully succeeded in this, having learned to hit armored targets without a miss.

Maj Zemtsov read and studied much specialized, memoir and fictional literature to come in touch with the heroics of Great Patriotic War battles. He was interested in the operating tactics of the air defense subunits which entered battle against the ground enemy. He wanted to choose vivid examples of valor and high proficiency of the air defense personnel when they became tank destroyers.

Personnel of the 5th Battery, 748th Antiaircraft Artillery Regiment, displayed unbending courage in the summer of 1942. Battery personnel commanded by Politruk A. Panin reliably covered our forces against enemy air attacks in the vicinity of the Voroponovo Railroad Station. Soon the ground situation was sharply aggravated and they had to shift the gun tubes to a horizontal position. The Hitlerites were moving a group of tanks against the battery. The air defense personnel had more than enough expertise in accurate direct fire against armored targets. Already one tank, then another and a third began blazing... The artillerymen knocked out eight machines.

Other episodes also were imprinted in the awareness of the missilemen, who now were ready to measure their strength against the pressing "enemy." Last year the battalion which Maj Zemtsov was representing in this problem also went out to the range, with a different goal at that time: a tactical field fire exercise. The personnel confidently coped with the missions and the launches of all missiles were accurate, for which the subunit received an outstanding grade. The next exercise showed that the privates and NCO's also had mastered small arms to the full extent.

Maj Zemtsov quickly had to estimate the situation at hand in order to make effective use of small arms. The "enemy" had not yet managed to shift to vigorous actions when the surrounding area resounded with loud bursts. This was operator A. Rassulov opening fire with a machinegun against a helicopter. Immediately rounds from rocket launchers rang out one after the other. From a low hillock one could easily see the red tracers of the rounds accurately stitching through the tank mock-ups. There were machinegun bursts again and again, this time aimed at the APC. Later, when the "enemy" infantry tried to take the strongpoint by a resolute attack, the missilemen greeted it with concerted, skillfully organized fire.

The problem was a good school for the missilemen.

6904

CSO: 1801/360

NAVAL FORCES

VTOL TRAINING EXERCISE DISCUSSED

Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 20 Jun 84 p 6

[Article by A. Gorkhov, Red Banner Pacific Fleet: "The Path to the Berth"]

[Text] They relate: water all around, for hundreds of miles, and its berth--the flight deck of an antisubmarine warfare [ASW] cruiser--seems from the air like a matchbox with an immense gray space with uncertain blurred limits.

There is a particle of the motherland; only there can the sharp-nosed blue-green airplanes with the naval flag on the sides accomplish a landing.

...We did not land on the cruiser with the first approach. The outlined deck and superstructure remained on the right, and again before the eyes was only the instrument panel which was blinking with indicators of various colors. He moved the RUD--throttle lever--forward and took off on a second circle. Again flight by profile, as the VTOL pilots call flight along a circle which is customary for land-based aviation.

"Do not hurry," he heard the voice of the 33-year-old Lieutenant Colonel Valeriy Ositnyanko, the deputy commander of the air regiment. "You were distracted by speed and forgot about altitude and distance. A little more attentive...." And I thought: Ositnyanko has about 400 deck landings to his credit, it is easy for him to reason. But is it easy? There is a scar on his chin, the trace of a recent ejection. What easiness there....

We executed the landing nevertheless, true, with four hands. When we emerged from the simulator building--our "flight" took place on the ground--I asked about the "origin" of this very scar. Ositnyanko answered briefly:

"An irregular situation!"

And he added:

"When I first saw this airplane, I remember, I greatly marvelled: such a hulk, and it takes off vertically. Takeoff and landing here are a delicate thing. If you scarcely began to yawn or treated the craft roughly, the automatic device of the ejection seat is triggered and you fly out of the airplane like a bullet. This also happened to me one day. I should say that the seat in the aircraft is of quality. Thanks to its creators....

It is not by chance, I believe, that one of the veterans of naval aviation expressed the following thought: "In naval aviation all difficulties have a double factor." For you see, for example, in the case of ejection it is not the hardness of the ground which awaits the pilot, but ocean waves among which a new, no less difficult stage in the struggle for survival sets in.

The regimental commander, 35-year-old Lieutenant Colonel Yuriy Churilov, who last winter was awarded the title of Hero of the Soviet Union, evidently intentionally led me into the regimental "cloakroom" to show me the flight equipment. Here is what it consists of. A thermal insulation suit is put on over thin underwear. Then the pilot arrays himself in an hermetic shell which has a large rubber blister: filled with gas, it permits staying in the water for a day. The hermetic shell has an orange top. Along the sides--floats. One has to pull out the plugs, and the floats are inflated. We supplement the picture with a protective helmet or pressure helmet and boots. Altogether, all this recalls the equipment of our first cosmonauts--the pilots of the "Vostoks."

Yuriy Churilov, Valeriy Ositnyanko, and their subordinates and colleagues belong to the first generation of Soviet carrier pilots. They were among the first to fly from the shore and from the deck, day and night, and they mastered a takeoff with a shortened takeoff run and landing with a short run. All--for the first time. Because the airplane was also first.

By the way, back at the dawn of the century, 75 years ago, the captain of the corps of ships' engineers, Lev Matsiyevich who was one of the first Russian pilots, worked out a plan for an aircraft carrier and catapults for aeroplanes. "There is no difficulty in building special pads in the bow and stern of a vessel on which aeroplanes could be placed and from which they would rise," Matsiyevich wrote in a report which was submitted through channels.

Let us move through the decades to the summer of 1967. Then, at the air show at Domodedovo Hero of the Soviet Union Valentin Mukhin demonstrated a test model of a vertical takeoff and landing airplane, what a hybrid of the jet airplane to which all were accustomed and a helicopter and forefather of today's combat carrier aircraft. One more remarkable Soviet pilot stood at the sources of the unusual matter--Yuriy Garnayev, Hero of the Soviet Union and honored test pilot of the USSR. It was precisely Garnayev who had the occasion to test the unusual flight vehicle. They called it the "flying bench," "flying table," and more often--the turbojet. Neither wing nor propeller; only a cockpit and engine on a metal platform with four legs which was controlled by so-called gas vanes.

"Those works made the impression of some kind of circus attraction," recalled Hero of the Soviet Union and honored test pilot of the USSR, Sergey Anokhin. "I recall that prior to one of the flights Garnayev even joked: and will tiger tamers perform after me?"

A joke is a joke, but much of what underwent a check on the turbojet was embodied after a few years in the contemporary aircraft which takes off vertically. And one of Garnayev's comrades wrote soon after his death in France: "A pilot who sits in a vertical takeoff and landing [VTOL] airplane! Remember this person...."

Just as Oleg Kononenko, Mikhail Deksbakh, Valentin Nazaryan, Vladimir Gordiyenko, and many other test pilots, plant and military, who put their soul into the airplane.

...The shore airfield found a place for itself "at the very edge of Soviet land." We arrived there soon after the pilots had returned from a long ocean cruise on the ASW cruiser "Minsk." On the day of return the weather was excellent. And the seamen and aviators who were off watch went out on the deck. Because there is no dearer berth than one's own home. And the sea is the sea. And a recent land-based aviation specialist must become accustomed to it and master naval professions and procedures. Because we do not have a school for naval pilots. Just as, by the way, for now there is no uniform emblem for the carrier pilot like, let us say, the one which submariners have.

The regimental commander showed me a field humor newspaper, BURUN [Bow Wave]. The political officer, Lieutenant Colonel Viktor Utenkov, explained:

"This newspaper is one of the means for the psychological renewal of the personnel. People stand at it for a long time. They take offense sometimes, but on the whole they relate to it with understanding. Unquestionably, it is difficult to go for a walk on cruises. Much depends on the interrelations of people and on the feeling of fellowship, where the seaman helps the aviator and the aviator helps the seaman to understand aviation affairs. This process is mutual, enriching both sides. At sea, you see, we are one family, a large and harmonious collective."

The editor of BURUN, Captain Vyacheslav Petrusha, a third-class military pilot and participant in several long ocean cruises, also spoke of this lofty sense of collectivism.

"We were at sea," he relates, "when it was announced over the loudspeaker that our regimental commander had been awarded the title of Hero of the Soviet Union. You know what a joyous mood gripped everyone on the ship! A high evaluation of our labor...."

Petrusha meditated for a minute, evidently recalling recent routine ocean days:

"The pilots stand the sea well. It is a little difficult only at the very beginning. But when work begins, you forget everything. In order to get on a cruise, one must undergo difficult, comprehensive training. And if some pilot does not acquire something when mastering the new and unusual airplane or has difficulty in becoming accustomed to the new working conditions, it is better to admit it honestly and depart. There is nothing dishonorable in this...."

Specialists correctly believe that with the appearance of the VTOL a new type of pilot, if it can be stated this way, who is physically and psychologically tempered and possesses tremendous personal courage is also being formed. For the main berth--the deck of the cruiser--is here. And at times the path to it is difficult.

One of those who was taken on a recent cruise on the "Minsk" to "fly around" was 28-year-old Captain Yevgeniy Chashin.

"Of course, perhaps there is a different attitude on flights at sea," the pilot admitted. "The novelty of what is occurring is far from accustomed land. The sea is the sea. However, you quickly settle down...."

Alongside him is six-year-old Denis Chashin. I asked the boy to show how his father flies. Little Denis pressed a hand to the floor and then, with knowledge of the matter, he rose slowly:

"Zh-zh-zh!"

That is how his father flies. The little boy declared firmly: I will be a pilot. And do you know? He will. He will fly airplanes of the 21st century above the ocean and will add to the glory of the Pacific Fleet's aviators.

6367

CSO: 1801/362

NAVAL FORCES

PACIFIC FLEET PAPER HIT FOR WEAK CRITICAL APPROACH

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 21 Jun 84 p 2

[Article: "The Subject Is Important, But...."; passages rendered in all capital letters printed in boldface in source]

[Text] In the Red Banner Pacific Fleet the successes of the personnel of the Guards missile cruiser "Varyag" in training and service enjoy good fame. It is proper that the fleet newspaper BOEVAYA VAKHTA also turns its attention to the experience accumulated on this ship. It stresses in its articles that the most important condition for raising combat readiness and for the personnel's attainment of successes in the mastery of combat skill and contemporary equipment and weapons is a high state of discipline and performance of officers, warrant officers [michman], petty officers, and seamen and their strict and undeviating observance of the requirements of the Navy Regulations of the Soviet Navy and the daily plan.

The article, "So that There Are No Delinquencies" was printed in one of the editions of the newspaper. Using specific facts from the experience of the activity by the communists of the Guards missile cruiser, Captain 1st Rank N. Stavskiy told of how results of party work in ensuring the personnel's high state of discipline and maintaining prescribed order on the ship are attained.

Instructive experience in the accomplishment of the daily plan in the military construction company commanded by Lieutenant A. Ozerov is contained in the report by A. Orekhovskiy, "From Reveille to Taps."

We could also refer to other successful articles of BOEVAYA VAKHTA on questions connected with observance of the daily plan in units and on ships and, this means, with the strengthening of the personnel's discipline. However, unfortunately articles on these important subjects often bear a survey, informational, faceless nature. There is not a sufficiently deep disclosure of the specific experience of the struggle of commanders, political officers, and party and Komsomol organizations for prescribed internal order.

Not quite correct interpretations are also encountered in articles. On 17 May 1984 the newspaper published under the heading "On the Ocean Expanses" a report by Senior Lieutenant A. Umanskiy which was transmitted by radio, "Ships Order." To maintain it, according to the author's assertion, during the very first days

of the voyage "a so-called week of explosion and fire hazard was conducted," and later "a week of duty-watch service." And just what was done in the remaining days and weeks? And the author has the answer to this question: "Subsequently it was ONLY (emphasis ours) required that the submariners maintain established order and a high level of organization of service on the ship."

It is believed that the newspaper is called upon to fight not for the conduct of "so-called weeks," but for firm knowledge and undeviating DAILY accomplishment of the regulations' requirements by the personnel of the units and ships and to show the practical aspect of the matter using the experience of the best.

It is well known that responsibility for the maintenance of a high level of military discipline and prescribed order and organization in the subunit, unit, and on the ship is assigned to the one-man commanders. In the conduct of this work, they rely on the party and Komsomol organizations. This was also discussed in the article by the military commandant of the Vladivostok garrison, Colonel V. Shramko, which was published by BOYEVAYA VAKHTA. Referring, for example, to the Guards missile cruiser "Varyag," he writes that when the cruiser calls briefly at a port, here important work is conducted systematically on preparing the personnel for shore leave and for going on regular leave and detached service. Before a serviceman goes ashore, he already knows where and how he can rest, which motion pictures and concerts are taking place where, and so forth. But the main thing--he is filled with dignity and pride for his collective and he will not permit himself to let it down or violate discipline while on leave. And on the Guards missile cruiser "Varyag" and in the fleet such collectives and crews are the majority.

However, we can agree with far from all the propositions contained in V. Shramko's article. To put it mildly, for example, perplexity is caused by the statement that "getting accustomed to violating the daily plan WITH THE KNOWLEDGE OF THEIR CHIEFS (our emphasis), some servicemen go absent without leave and leave the disposition areas of subunits...." The reader is also put on guard by the unsubstantiated statement that "at times individual chiefs also let their subordinates down by a disrespectful attitude toward the daily plan and, so, toward discipline...."

An article with such far-fetched and, to put it more precisely, irresponsible formulations will hardly further the strengthening of one-man command. It is difficult to understand what the editors wanted to express in giving this article the size of six newspaper column headings, "And This--With the Knowledge of the Commander."

The appearance of material by Captain 3d Rank A. Smirnov, "Interrupted Meeting," in the newspaper under the heading, "In the Daily Plan--Discipline," is incomprehensible. It discusses why Petty Officer 1st Class Garipov was relieved from the performance of service on a detail. During service, the author narrates, he "jumped headlong into the street" where he met a girl who, again, in accordance with the will of the author and the editors, "lifted her eyes which were blue, the color of a seaman's collar, to him and began to blink her eyelashes like seaside swallow-tail butterflies (?)" "Garipov," reports the author about his observations, "was thrown into a fever, and then into a chill."

Controlling himself, the petty officer began to speak with the stranger. And we do not know how long the conversation would have continued if the unit duty officer had not interrupted him in time, relieving Garipov of the detail." It is difficult to say what value such articles bring to the strengthening of discipline.

Questions connected with the observance of internal order and the implementation of schedules should be posed in a more businesslike manner and more pointedly in the editorials of BOYEVAYA VAKHTA. Critical remarks should also have their goal. For the present, they are often faceless. In the editorial, "Treasure Training Time," the newspaper noted that "there are still frequent cases where precious minutes are spent in vain because the procedure for the lesson was not thought through ahead of time, graphic aids were not prepared, and individual servicemen did not wear the proper uniform and were late in arriving." Further it said in the editorial that "the Pacific Fleet servicemen assumed strained obligations. In struggling for their successful accomplishment, the personnel must treasure each minute of training time." But why must they, the question arises? It is a sacred obligation.

Three more months, and again in the editorial the newspaper repeats that "there are still many shortcomings and instances of the vain expenditure of precious training time and there are indulgences in combat training, formalism in socialist competition, and deviations from the norms of military life." And not one reference to specific facts.

The following also happens: A month or so passes and BOYEVAYA VAKHTA writes nothing about the ship's plan or about the necessity for its accomplishment. Correspondence and reports on morning setting-up exercises, putting things in order, and the morning inspection, and how use is made of the time allotted for independent training and political-indoctrinational work and how the evening check takes place are not seen on its pages.

The summer training period is under way in the units and on the ships. The Soviet servicemen are continuing the struggle for the unconditional accomplishment of obligations in socialist competition under the slogan, "Be on the alert and in constant readiness for the defense of socialism's achievements." They are stubbornly and persistently mastering combat skill on the ground, in the skies, and at sea.

In the report of the Soviet Minister of Defense, Marshal of the Soviet Union D. F. Ustinov, at the Army-Wide Conference of Secretaries of Komsomol Organizations, it spoke about the necessity for the further strengthening of military discipline in subunits, units, and on ships. It is a matter of honor for BOYEVAYA VAKHTA and all our district, group, and fleet newspapers to tell systematically about how this instruction is being accomplished and how clear observance of the requirements of the regulations and the daily plan further the successful accomplishment of the tasks posed for the fleet's troops and forces.

NAVAL FORCES

INEFFICIENT USE, PREPARATION OF SUMMER EXERCISES NOTED

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 23 Jun 84 p 1

[Editorial: "Ocean Cruises--A School of Skill"]

[Text] For seamen as well as for all men of the Armed Forces the summer training period is an intense time. Plans for combat training envision the accomplishment of a great number of various training-combat missions: missile, gunnery, and torpedo firings, searches for submarines, training sweeping and mine layings. Not a day passes when one or another crew does not set out on a cruise --for a day, for several days, and even for long weeks and months.

At the Army-Wide Conference of Secretaries of Komsomol organizations member of the Politburo of the CPSU Central Committee and Soviet Minister of Defense, Marshal of the Soviet Union D. F. Ustinov, characterized sea cruises along with exercises and combat sorties as the highest check of readiness for battle. On sea and ocean cruises the seamen have the most favorable possibilities for the conduct of military training in a situation which approximates one of combat, for the improvement of special and sea training and moral-psychological tempering, and the generation of such qualities as boldness, resoluteness, initiative, steadfastness, and endurance. Of course, these possibilities are realized only in the case where a persistent struggle is waged in the fleet forces, units, and on the ships for the maximum effective use of each cruise mile.

The matter was posed in precisely this way on the ship which was the initiator of competition in the Navy--the nuclear missile cruiser "Kirov." The cruise which it accomplished was extremely important. The seamen were tested many times by the strength of a storm. Every so often NATO ships and airplanes maneuvered in dangerous proximity. But however the situation on the cruise may have developed, nothing disrupted the crew of the "Kirov" from the fine-tuned, clear rhythm of combat training. Planned exercises and drills were conducted precisely on time. The ship's commander, Captain 1st Rank A. Koval'chuk, and the other officers conducted a constant search for new tactical procedures and used every opportunity to knock the combat sections together and work out the interaction of the ship's subunits. The crew returned from the long cruise having gained in strength and having substantially replenished the store of knowledge and skills necessary for battle.

No cruise is accomplished for the sake of the cruise itself. A warship is not simply a means of transportation, but a combat unit. Unfortunately, instances are still encountered where these truths are forgotten. A ship accomplishes a cruise, the log ticks off mile after mile, and the exercises and drills are conducted on a case by case basis. Of course, even during the standing of watch the seamen receive the necessary knowledge and skills, but to be limited to this alone means not utilizing completely good opportunities to improve combat training and expending equipment service life inefficiently.

The most important condition for fruitful training at sea consists of the ship commander's initiative and creativity. A creatively thinking commander with initiative always strives to display military cunning, keenness of wit, and boldness, and for innovations in tactics and in the employment of weapons. In this way he also teaches his subordinates to operate boldly, courageously, and in a tactically competent manner. With a zealous commander there are no "groundless" movements of the ship from point to point and no situation is created where, in the accomplishment of one firing or another, only the specialists directly engaged in it work actively while the others idle away their time. He strives to see that the personnel are employed to the maximum under any conditions and tightly fills the cruise time with individual and special exercises at the battle stations and the working out of procedures in damage control and elements of air defense, antisubmarine, antichemical, and other types of ship protection.

The role of clear planning of each departure of the ship for sea also increases with an increase in the complexity of the tasks which must be accomplished by the crew. It is the duty of senior commanders and staffs to do everything possible to exclude instances of the squandering of precious cruise time due to various types of mismatings in plans and insufficiently thought-out support of training measures.

Lessons of the winter period of training and the first weeks of summer training show that in some units and forces of the fleet the significance of in-base preparation of the ships is underestimated. Such omissions turn into failures. This is what happened, for example, on the destroyer escort "Razumnyy." The subordinates of Captain 3d Rank I. Ryabov went out for the accomplishment of an important firing mission not having studied sufficiently and not having prepared the equipment properly. And it is not surprising that the quality with which the mission was accomplished was low.

There is a tested rule: the more difficult the situation in which one or another combat collective operates, the more actively should party-political work be conducted. This rule should also be used as a guide on sea and ocean cruises where situations arise which require of the seamen the maximum straining of spiritual and physical strength. The tasks of commanders, political officers, and communists of the fleet's ships and units consist of the following: placing as the basis of their ideological-indoctrinational work the decisions of the 26th Party Congress and subsequent plenums of the CPSU Central Committee, to explain to the personnel persistently the complexity of the present international situation, indoctrinate the seamen in a spirit of lofty personal responsibility for the reliable defense of the motherland, and create in them an attitude for intense military labor. The fleet Komsomol organizations are also called upon to

make their contribution to this. Being guided by the propositions and conclusions contained in the speech of the General Secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and Chairman of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet, Comrade K. U. Chernenko, at the Army-Wide Conference of Secretaries of Komsomol Organizations and by the recommendations of this conference, they should raise combat vitality in work in every possible way and struggle actively for the exemplary nature of each Komsomol in combat training.

In the fleet, it has become a good tradition to plan specific goals for combat improvement and assume socialist obligations for the time of departure for sea and for the period of long cruises while still at the base. It is important that this not be converted into a formal act, that a spirit of competition reign at the ship command posts and battle stations during firings and exercises conducted at sea, and that there be a tense struggle for the excellent result of each cruise day.

"Prepare the ship for action and the cruise!"--each departure to sea and each voyage begins with this command. Action and cruise, cruise and action.... These words do not stand side by side by chance. The ship is departing on a training cruise, but each mile of it, if we judge from a strict accounting, is a combat mile.

6367

CSO: 1801/361

NAVAL FORCES

STALBO DISCUSSES HISTORY, USE OF U.S. MARINES

Moscow NEDELYA in Russian No 21, 21-27 May 84 p 10

[Article by Doctor of Naval Sciences, Professor, Vice Adm K. Stalbo: "Soldiers of Coercion; The Truth About the U.S. Marines"; the article has been written from materials of the foreign press]

[Text] There are many examples: Washington merely has to feel that somewhere someone has begun to threaten its imperialist interests, that, for instance, a reactionary government set up by it has begun to quaver, or the national liberation movement has begun to win victories, or something has happened which is not to the liking of Wall Street, and then U.S. naval vessels with Marines on board set to sea. Does a government out of favor need to be overthrown? Does the next military coup need to be carried out? Does a sovereign state need to be occupied (as was recently the case with Grenada)? The Marines are ready: the landing craft, missiles, cannons, helicopters, and healthy fellows with shaved heads are always ready, speaking in the colorless language of official papers, "to carry out any tasks which the U.S. President gives them" (I am quoting the official document which announced the establishing of the U.S. Marine Corps). What this actually means is to murder, set fire and destroy. A loyal hound ready to sink its teeth into anyone at the bidding of its master-- this is the U.S. Marines.

But why just the Marines? What sort of organization is this?

Like much in American life, the Marines came here from England. But, there they appeared under more picturesque circumstances: the crews of sailing vessels from the fleet of His (and later, Her) Majesty, no matter how strange it may seem to us now, in the 17th Century were recruited from foreigners and adventurers. Often the crew was made up of all sorts of adventurers and drifters who, after the ship was in the open sea, tried to seize the ship and engage in piracy. The captains feared these sorts more than the enemy. For this reason the initial goal pursued by the founders of such an unusual military formation as the marines, was fundamentally simple: to prevent possible revolts by the crew. That is, it was given purely police functions of keeping track of their own men!

Very quickly it became apparent to the English admirals that the limits which they had set for the "ship soldiers" were narrow. The Marines moved on shore.

They moved in order to turn Great Britain into a major colonial power. The enormous overseas territories were seized precisely by the Marines. Precisely they were involved in all the colonial and other wars which were waged by Great Britain.

I have written in such detail about the English Marines because it historically evolved that the American Armed Forces in each stage of their history developed, as sailors say, "wing astern" the English, that is, precisely repeating all the actions of the "leader" and adopting many traditions of their partner. This also happened with the marines. The American Marines are more than a hundred years younger than the English. In the War of Independence, the Marines, like the Navy, did not play any significant role and were abolished in 1785. However, at the end of the 18th Century, when the States set out on the path of expansionism and colonial seizures in both hemispheres, the Navy and Marines were resurrected and were put at the forefront of aggression. Here the Marines adopted all the worst from the English and primarily the professional ability to murder and the ideology of suppressing small peoples. Over the 200 years of their existence, they have been an indispensable participant in virtually all the campaigns, wars and conflicts and have made around 200 landings. In essence, the recent military history of the United States has been the history of its Navy and Marines.

A chronicle of their crimes would take up many pages. Let us draw the attention of the readers to just several examples of the recent period. Thus, the years of 1945-1983:

American Marines participated in the struggle against the Chinese People's Liberation Army. The Marines landed in Greece. The aim was to establish a monarchical regime in this country. They invaded Paraguay in order to establish a pro-American military junta there. The Marines participated in suppressing the revolt of the Philippine people and in the war against the Korean people. With their aid the democratic government of Guatemala was overthrown and the dictatorship of a pro-American military junta established. Marines landed in Lebanon for suppressing the mass democratic actions of the people in this country. The Marines participated in the war against the people of Korea and together with England and Belgium an intervention in the Congo (Zaire), in bloody persecution of the people in the Panama Canal Zone, in a dirty war against the Vietnamese people and in the intervention and atrocities in Laos. They invaded the Dominican Republic, carrying out a fierce, bloody reprisal against the people of this country. They occupied Cambodia. They participated in accord with the CIA plans, in the counterrevolutionary coups in Bolivia, Chile and El Salvador, establishing fascist regimes there. They landed again in Lebanon. They carried out the intervention against Grenada which was monstrous in its cynicism and fierceness and shook the entire world....

Some 19 attacks on sovereign states in the 38 postwar years!

At present, the U.S. Marines (and also its ships, aviation and ground forces) are continuing to put military pressure or overtly intervene in the affairs of many countries. For instance, Nicaragua and El Salvador, and the countries of Africa and the Near East have not been left "without attention." But, since the U.S. Marines are an important and permanent component part of the "Rapid

Deployment Forces," their appearance is possible virtually in any area of the world's ocean which has been declared by American imperialism to be a zone of its "vital" interests and a sphere of struggle for world domination.

These mercenary troops have a number of significant privileges in comparison with all the other military formations. The privileges are so fundamental that it puts them in a position of "troops above the troops." For example, the Marines have their own combat aviation numbering more than 1,000 different aircraft. Being primarily a specialized troop grouping, the Marines on equal footing with the Navy, Ground Forces and Air Forces, exist, however, as a fourth U.S. Armed Service. The commandant of the Marines (at present, this is the 59-year old Gen P. C. Kelly and not to be confused with Lt Calley, the Hero of the atrocity at Songmi) is appointed by the nation's president, he is a member of the Joint Chiefs of Staff and in reviewing questions relating to the Marines has the decisive vote. Marine personnel stand police service on ships and they guard the White House as well as major governmental installations. They are also included as personnel of the U.S. embassies.

In line with the particular traditional attention of the presidents to the Marines and to its commandant, the prerogatives of the latter significantly extend beyond the Navy the secretary of which is generally the superior of the Marine commandant. These prerogatives obviously derive from the Marine police functions and from their missions of guarding the White House. In all particularly important ceremonies at the White House involving the president, the musical accompaniment for the ceremonies is provided by the Marine Band which is thus "presidential." The U.S. Marines have their own hymn. It is worthy of note that this begins with the words: "From the halls of Montezuma to the shores of Tripoli...."

These are very curious words: in September 1847, American troops and Marines captured the capital of Mexico, Mexico City. The city was plundered and destroyed. The same fate befell the residents of the rulers of the ancient Aztecs, the Palace of Montezuma. The Marines particularly distinguished themselves in this barbarian act.

As for Tripoli, the facts were: in 1804, a U.S. Mediterranean squadron with Marines on board blockaded the Libyan capital of Tripoli. The city was half destroyed and after attacks by the Marines surrendered. Many women, old people and children perished....

Thus, the first two lines of the hymn are devoted to two barbarian actions by the Marines.

The American presidents, who, of course, know the history of their state stand listening to the Marine hymn and applaud it (incidentally, in congratulating the "victors" of Grenada, a Marine sergeant sat solemnly with Reagan behind a desk).

The present-day American Marines number around 200,000 men and these are several-fold more than in all the NATO countries taken together. They consist of fleet forces, ship detachments and the Marines per se as well as a security service (something of the prototype of the Nazi SD in some of its functions).

The Marine fleet forces designed primarily for landing operations consist of three divisions and three air wings (approximately 350 airplanes and helicopters in each).

The military concept of the American Marines has been formulated very curiously: "A combat-ready field force of strategic and tactical significance providing support for U.S. national policy." How does this appear in practice? It has been enough for someone to announce that Americans "have been in danger" in some nation and the Marines were sent in. As we know, in Grenada Americans also "were in danger." This was also the case in Haiti, Nicaragua and Cuba.

As history shows, including most recent history, a typical feature in the actions of the American Marines in "foreign states" is their senseless cruelty (here the Pentagon is imitating Hitler who was fond of repeating that in a total war the first thing needed is cruelty, cruelty and cruelty!). One of the Marines thus described the traits of his colleagues: "I would explain this hate, this cruelty that this is in the blood of our society and, naturally, influences the Marines." The nature of the training of the Marines corresponds fully to the social roots of the phenomenon as this training is based on eradicating everything human from the future Marine and turning him into a machine programmed for murder and destruction. A living machine which possesses the most primitive understanding of the surrounding world.

Roughness, humiliation and assault--all of these are a permanent form of "indoctrinating" the Marines. In the press there has been information on how a drunk Marine sergeant during the night forced his platoon into a river and as a result six men drowned. The Marines themselves admit that they feel secure in the barracks only when they are armed.

Racial discrimination is widespread. Armed clashes between individual groups on racial grounds is an ubiquitous phenomenon. In one of the Marine divisions in 8 months there were 190 such clashes and many soldiers were wounded. In this division the command was forced to establish special detachments for suppressing such fights. Sections of territory between the barracks of the whites and the negroes are always patrolled. They are called a "demilitarized zone."

The extremely low discipline and high crime rate among the Marines have forced the Defense Department to build three military prisons specially for the Marines, the largest of which is located at Camp Pendleton. During a year approximately 7,000 persons pass through it!

One should be amazed when, in emerging from the hell in which they were shaped, the Marines become obedient servants always ready with the aid of napalm, tanks, assault aviation and flamethrowers to murder any and everyone as soon as the sergeant gives the order for this.

The American Marines endeavor to show their capabilities fully. But they succeed in this far from always. They are only successful when the United States attacks small, insular states where it is not so difficult to "win a victory" for the American troops armed according to the last word of technology.

As for the ships which carry the Marines, they are primarily landing craft of varying tonnage and, consequently, landing capacity. The tendency has been for

a constant increase in the tonnage and, hence, the combat capabilities and this is explained by the desire of the U.S. Navy to develop those forces and equipment which would correspond to the new aggressive plans of Washington. As is known, the largest landing vessels from the period of World War II had a tonnage of around 4,500 tons while the American ships of the most recent model, the "Tarawa" class, possess a tonnage of more than 40,000 tons. They are capable of transporting and landing up to 2,000 Marines with tanks and artillery and can carry 30 helicopters. Air-cushion vessels which can reach a speed of up to 110 km an hour are used as landing craft. At present, the American Navy has five ships of the "Tarawa" class. The U.S. Navy also has seven landing helicopter carriers for landing the Marines.

What is such an armada to be used for? The landing ships carrying such a combined combat potential--from Marines to helicopters and tanks--in being moved up ahead of time to certain areas of the world can, as the Pentagon plans, quickly land on the coast and thus establish conditions for a broad invasion of the territory attacked.

The U.S. Marines as well as the numerous landing vessels form so-called amphibious formations which are employed as the first waves with American attacks on small states and in unleashing local wars, as was the case in Korea and Vietnam. The amphibious forces and operations by the American Navy at present are one of the most characteristic areas of its employment.

In employing their strategy of utilizing amphibious formations, the Americans have endeavored to stun the enemy by the surprise and power of the strikes from the sea. However, their initial successes, as experience has shown, have always ended by using the same vessels to pick them back up. This has occurred under the attacks of patriotic forces or under the effect of international public opinion.

The U.S. Marine hymn ends with the words: "If the Army and Navy reach the Lord, they will see that in the heavens all the streets are already occupied by the U.S. Marines."

Let us not comment on such an ambiguous finale, although it actually is worthy of those who today enthusiastically sing this hymn.

10272
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SPECIAL TROOPS

OUTSTANDING COMMANDER SIGNAL TROOPS PROFILED

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 22 May 84 p 1

[Article by Capt V. Voronkov: "Chief of the Communications Center"]

[Text] We arrived at the communications center under the command of Lt Col V. Deryzemlya, immediately after the end of a special tactical exercise. The signal troops had to operate in a difficult situation but they carried out their missions excellently and during all stages of the exercise provided the superior staff with dependable, uninterrupted communications. Lt Col Deryzemlya and his deputy for political affairs Capt S. Sokolov with satisfaction named the outstanding men.

They spoke with particular warmth about the chief of the telephone center Maj G. Matyukhin. At one time, this subunit had been lagging. Here instances of violating military discipline had grown more frequent and the results of the signal troops in combat training had declined. Then, upon a decision of the senior chief, Maj Matyukhin took over the collective. Someone voiced the opinion that perhaps the officer lacked experience in working with the men and independence. But Lt Col Deryzemlya had known him while still a lieutenant. Before his very eyes there had been the steady growth of Matyukhin as a commander and specialist. The lieutenant colonel was confident that he would straighten things out in the collective. And he was not wrong. The exercise again confirmed that the telephone center was on the upswing.

Lt Col Deryzemlya is a master of communications, he knows his job excellently and devotes all his energy to it. His subordinates are the same way including Maj G. Kuzin, Capt K. Pavlov, Lt A. Kudryavtsev, WO ["Praporshchik"] I. Kichenko and Sgts S. Muratov and A. Alikeshev.... They are all outstanding men and experts for communications equipment.

This is the second year that Lt Viktor Vasil'yevich Deryzemlya has commanded the communications center. During this time, the subunit has noticeably grown in combat skills, discipline and combat readiness. Lt Col Deryzemlya has been able to unite the collective, to focus it on carrying out the set tasks and to lead them to achieving high results in the competition. Here there is a strong party organization. And largely due to the fact that the commander has been able to direct the energy of the communists at solving the key questions of instructing and indoctrinating the men and increasing combat readiness.

Lt Col Deryzemlya is one of those who is completely dedicated to his cherished career. He served as a radio telegraph operator. After completing military school, he commanded a platoon and a company. Then came the academy.

The communications center is far away from large population points. Here the living conditions are not easy. But there are no whiners in the collective. The men serve in this remote garrison with satisfaction, and I would say, with joy. Many soldiers and sergeants, having served their time here, go to warrant officer school and return to their home subunit. As an example, this has been done by WOs A. Durnichev and I. Fazliyev.

Month after month the personnel of the communications center under the command of Lt Col Deryzemlya has achieved high indicators in combat training and has been leading in the competition. And the valorous military service of many of the signalmen has been recognized by high governmental decorations. Among them are Majs V. Mayachkin and V. Bochkarev, and WO I. Kichenko. And Lt Col Deryzemlya himself has received the Order "For Service to the Motherland in the USSR Armed Forces" 3d Degree.

In carrying out current tasks, the chief of the center never forgets tomorrow. And for this reason here the training facilities are constantly being updated and improved and advanced methods and procedures are being introduced into the training practices of the signalmen.

Here, one feels, the command talent of the communist, Lt Col Deryzemlya, is most apparent. And here something else must be mentioned. In analyzing the results of winter training, here they have focused attention on the unresolved questions and the unutilized reserves. Exactingness in assessing what has been achieved is a characteristic trait of the center's chief.

10272

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DOSA AF

DOSA AF WORK IN CENTRAL ASIA EXAMINED, FAULTED

Tashkent PRAVDA VOSTOKA in Russian 30 May 84 p 1

[Editorial: "To Indoctrinate Patriots"]

[Text] The monument was set up to the Karakalpak grain grower, Urunbay Abdullayev, while he was still alive. It was in the Latvian city of Ludze.

The men who were fighting an unequal battle surrounded were considered lost. Posthumously they were awarded the title of Hero of the Soviet Union.

Abdullayev was still alive. The decoration found the soldier. Urunbay-ata visited the Baltic and met with the young people near the obelisk set up in honor of his comrades in arms where his name had been inscribed in marble.

In the museum of combat glory of the Red Banner Turkestan Military District there is the bullet-pierced Komsomol card of Shitikov. He also is still in the army.

In the same museum is the blood-spattered party card of Ubaydulla Musayev. After medical treatment Musayev returned home. For unstinting labor he received the title of Hero of Socialist Labor.

The sons and grandsons of the men of the Great Patriotic War are now in the ranks of the motherland's defenders. They are loyal to the heroic traditions of our army and our people. The succession of generations is continuing. For the exemplary execution of the assignments of the command and for the mastery of combat equipment, orders and medals have been awarded to the Namangan residents S. Kenzin and N. Akhtyamov, the Tashkent residents R. Aripov, A. Rostin, Sh. Sabirov and N. Khakimdzhanov and to the Fergana residents V. Daurov, I. Babaulov and N. Rakhmanov. They are all graduates of the DOSAAF schools and sports-technical clubs.

Establishing in the awareness of the workers, primarily of the younger generation, the ideas of Soviet patriotism and socialist internationalism, pride for the Soviet country and a readiness to come to the defense of the victories of socialism has been and remains one of the most important tasks for DOSAAF. The defense society is rightly called a school of patriots and a dependable assistant and reserve of the Armed Forces. For more than 57 years, DOSAAF has helped future soldiers master technical and paramilitary types of sports.

The role of the defense society has increased particularly in our days. "You and I are well aware how difficult is the present-day international situation," emphasized Comrade K. U. Chernenko at the April Plenum of the CPSU Central Committee. "The CPSU and the Soviet government are making an enormous effort to prevent a nuclear war and to preserve and strengthened peace in the world. With consistency and initiative we are working to eliminate tension in world politics, to check the arms race and dependably ensure national security."

Military-patriotic indoctrination is a task of great political and state importance.

In a speech at the All-Army Conference of Komsomol Organization Secretaries, Konstantin Ustinovich Chernenko pointed out: "...Work must be more widely developed in military patriotic indoctrination. With greater consistency we must indoctrinate in the youth feelings of love for the motherland and hate for the enemy, high political, class vigilance and a constant readiness to carry out a feat." The republic defense society, under the leadership of the party and soviet bodies, in cooperation with the Komsomol organizations and the creative unions, has taken a significant step ahead in improving patriotic indoctrination. It has become ideologically stronger, it has grown, it has become enriched with advanced experience and its role has risen in the sociopolitical life of the collective. The Uzbek DOSAAF organization with a membership of 6 million members, came in third according to the results of the All-Union Socialist Competition. The best indicators were achieved by the DOSAAF committees of Fergana, Tashkent and Bukhara Oblasts. The mobilizing role in developing the competition was played by the competition's initiators which carried out increased obligations. These were the Kommunisticheski Rayon Committee, the Samarkand Model Motor Vehicle School and the Kuva Technical Sports Club.

The committees and primary organizations combine military-patriotic indoctrination with practical instruction in the fundamentals of military affairs. Work is also being improved with the preinduction youth. The DOSAAF training organizations in 1983 fulfilled the quotas by 104 percent. High indicators were achieved by the Bukhara and Samarkand Unified Technical Schools and the Fergana, Kokand, Yangiyul and Kattakurgan Motor Vehicle Schools. In arriving in the troop units and naval ships, the DOSAAF graduates from our republic quickly master the equipment and act skillfully in the exercises and drills as can be seen from the responses sent in by the commanders of the units and ships.

The defense society has made a noticeable contribution to the development of the national economy. Last year alone, 17,000 truck drivers and 5,600 equipment operators were trained, while 15,000 drivers improved their skills.

In carrying out the Decree of the CPSU Central Committee and the USSR Council of Ministers "On Further Increasing the Mass Nature of Physical Culture and Sports," the DOSAAF committees have energetically strengthened the sports facilities. The number of GTO [Ready for Labor and Defense] emblem holders has increased and around 80 percent of the inductees have received sports categories.

The republic defense society has gained a good deal of experience.

At the same time not all the committees have adopted all the best. Substantial shortcomings have still not been overcome in the DOSAAF organizations of the Karakalpak ASSR, Navoi and Surkhan-Darya Oblasts. There has been no unified planning or coordinating of the efforts of the community. The measures carried out have a campaign-type character and do not involve the young workers, kolkhoz members or senior-graders. Particular attention must be given to the primary organizations of the VUZes, secondary schools and vocational-technical schools, where the basic mass of the youth is trained. All patriotic work here should be conducted in unison with the educational and indoctrinational process. The Ministry of Education, Gosprofobr [State Committee of the Council of Ministers on Vocational-Technical Education], the republic Ministry of Higher and Specialized Secondary Education and the Uzbek Komsomol Central Committee should have a say here.

In the DOSAAF training organizations of Khorezma and Syr-Darya Oblasts there has been oversimplification in training, the overstating of grades and serious shortcomings in the political indoctrination of the students. As before just quantitative indicators have been put in first place in organizing the socialist competition. For the second year running the quality indicators have dropped in the graduating exams in the Dzhabay, Termez, Navoi and Bekabad Motor Vehicle Schools and in 1983 these indicators were lower in 17 other schools.

A great deal remains to be done for the DOSAAF organizations in strengthening the physical plant and effectively utilizing the shooting ranges, swimming pools and other sports facilities. The sports organizations and the local soviets should provide effective aid in resolving these and other questions.

The defense society organizations together with the Ministry of Education and the republic Gosprofobr should help the younger generation in improving its knowledge of Russian which is the language of international intercourse and provides an opportunity to better understand army terminology and more quickly master the modern complex combat equipment.

The interests of the motherland and our entire socialist commonwealth require increased attention to the mass defense and military-patriotic work. The 26th CPSU Congress and the subsequent plenums of the party Central Committee have set the task of increasing the combat potential of the Soviet Armed Forces. In organizing the military patriotic indoctrination of the population, the party committees must coordinate the actions of all the public organizations in this important matter, they must direct their efforts into a single channel and organize mass defense work in the spirit of the times.

10272

CSO: 1801/333

MILITARY EDUCATIONAL FACILITIES

ENGINEERING SCHOOL STUDENTS DEFEND GRADUATION PROJECTS

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 16 Jun 84 p 1

[Article by Col B. Lyapkalo: "On Orders from the Troops"]

[Text] For graduating students of the higher military engineering schools, the most important time has arrived--the defense of graduation projects. The future officers are taking examinations on readiness for the independent accomplishment of engineering tasks and the ability to use the knowledge obtained in the struggle to ensure the high combat readiness of equipment and armaments.

Our correspondent attended the defense of graduation projects at the Kiev Higher Military Engineering Signal School imeni M. I. Kalinin. We publish his report.

Today, perhaps, the excitement is greatest among the cadets who are to defend their projects in the department where the chief is Candidate of Technical Sciences Colonel L. Sulin. Here the state examination commission is headed by its chairman, Lieutenant General A. Nedin. But when the cadets report to the members of the commission, it is as if they are transformed--an atmosphere of mutual confidence and interest is felt.

Here Cadet Oleg Mel'nik is presenting the essence of the subject for his graduation project. He is speaking in a well-reasoned manner and confidently. And a quarter of an hour earlier, he had to be fairly worried. For his selected subject for the project Mel'nik had made a working model of an automated work site for a communication channel monitoring system. All tests proceeded successfully and suddenly, at the last minute when the model was prepared for demonstration during the defense, the device failed. The reason proved to be trivial--a contact was broken in one of the circuits. And it is good that the cadet did not become confused and displayed a professional flair or else he would have had to abandon the demonstration of the device.

The commission members had become familiar with the cadet's graduation project even before its defense and they came to the conclusion that the development could be used under field conditions. But is it sufficiently reliable, and how complete and objective is the information which it produces? Mel'nik provides exhaustive answers. They testify to the profound theoretical knowledge of the

graduating cadet while the selected technical solutions when making the working device testify to his ability to employ the knowledge obtained in practice. The combination of theoretical knowledge with practical skills is good for the future military engineer. And it is not by chance.

Mel'nik, just as many of his comrades in training, has participated actively in the cadet design bureau since the third course. The idea for his graduation project was born long before his graduation from the school--it was prompted by one of the requirements which arrived from the troops. And when he created the working model, he was helped by Cadet V. Umnov of the fourth course for whom it was unique practice.

Umnov intends to develop the system of monitoring devices further in his future graduation project. And he already has done considerable work in anticipation of this. Such continuity is widely practiced in the school.

Mel'nik's graduation project received an excellent evaluation. The evaluation is followed by the addendum: "With practical value." This addendum is extremely important. It means that the device is needed for the troops and can be introduced in the research effort which the graduating cadet was accomplishing.

Such a high evaluation was also received by the graduation projects of Senior Sergeants I. Bogdanov, S. Nikolayev, and Cadets A. Skoropad and G. Maksimenko.

I was interested in Lieutenant General A. Nedin's opinion of the schools graduates.

"On the whole, the level of engineering training of the future officers is high," the general said. "The graduating cadets have good work skills and are able to utilize the knowledge obtained in practice, as applicable to the interests of tactical training. It is also praiseworthy that a number of graduation projects are valuable studies which have practical significance and can be used to improve the combat readiness of communication systems, improve the training material base, and intensify the training process."

The high evaluations obtained during the defense of the graduation projects are the result of the training-indoctrination process which is skillfully organized in the school and well organized technical propaganda. Permanently operating in the departments are technical study groups where the cadets improve their knowledge and participate in the elaboration of displays, simulators, and other training equipment. As early as the first course many are attracted to work on communication equipment and automated control systems. And in the senior courses virtually all participate in military-scientific investigations and in invention or rationalization creativity. During the past year alone, about 400 rationalization suggestions were introduced in the school. All this work contributed to the situation where many cadets acquired experience by graduation which was sufficient for the profound, qualified elaboration, in graduation projects, of subjects in accordance with orders from the troops and military establishments.

For example, under the direction of Candidate of Technical Sciences A. Dorovskikh Cadet I. Dyadyura developed an automatic warning-signal receiver which, at the All-Union Competition of Student Works this year, was awarded the certificate of

the Ministry of Higher and Secondary Specialized Education of the USSR and the Komsomol Central Committee. Tests of a model of this receiver confirm the possibility of a substantial increase in the reliability of the control system now in use.

In this same department--it is headed by Candidate of Technical Sciences Colonel V. Dzyuba--Sergeant V. Balitskiy developed a general-purpose device on a micro-processor in accordance with a requirement of one of the institutes of the Ukrainian SSR Academy of Sciences. As reported in the comment of Academician of the Ukrainian Academy of Sciences G. Pisarenko and Doctor of Technical Sciences A. Kaminer, this device is being used successfully for the automation of scientific studies.

What are the immediate plans of the school's graduating cadets?

"I will implement my device in the unit," Cadet Mel'nik answered this question. "I will try to develop a technical style in my subordinates and to look for opportunities to increase the combat readiness of communication equipment and improve its servicing. At the Army-Wide Conference of Secretaries of Komsomol Organizations great attention was devoted to the technical training of the men. For us, future military engineers, the conference's recommendations are a program for action."

Many graduating students expressed the intention to continue the creative search, the taste for which was infused in them in the school. There is no doubt that the young officers will accomplish many useful deeds in this way.

6367

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MILITARY EDUCATIONAL FACILITIES

FATHERS' USE OF INFLUENCE INTERFERES WITH CADETS' STUDIES

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 22 Jun 84

[Article by Col G. Kuznetsov, Sverdlovsk Higher Military-Political Tank-Artillery School imeni L. I. Brezhnev: "Behind Daddy's Back"]

[Text] They stood next to the check point and talked in an animated manner. It was easy to guess what they were talking about. The strained week of training was left behind, in the pockets, passes, and each one had several hours of free time available.

The brakes of a "Volga" squeaked nearby. "It is for me," one of the cadets uttered and, taking off for the vehicle, he casually remarked: "So long, fellows. Until we meet...."

No one answered him. The cadets somehow suddenly realized something had happened to their animation and happy smiles. They all continued to stand together in the same way while waiting for the bus, but they were already different, as if something had suddenly happened between them, in an instant breaking their close circle and common interests. But you see, it would appear that nothing pertaining to them personally had occurred. The scene was repeated quite often: a concerned daddy sent an official vehicle for his son.

Oh, what extreme fatherly guardianship! How often it inflicts harm on moral indoctrination and turns into the protracted infantilism of the sons, flaws in their character, and losses of the respect of close friends and comrades.

I recall the confused, alienated face of cadet V. Krotenkov. It was as if a black cat had run between him and his comrades. Krotenkov found himself isolated and his classmates avoided his society and tried to have nothing in common with him. And the first months of training he was a sociable person constantly surrounded by comrades. Then they began to notice in him: he is lazy in his studies and is not opposed to violating discipline. And somehow, it is very easy for him to get away with everything. Soon, the reason for this became no secret for anyone. The senior Krotenkov who occupied a substantial official position visited the school quite frequently. Not to help his son to come to his senses. The tender-hearted daddy had another goal: to achieve special conditions for his child.

Cadet Krotenkov perceived all this as his due. And he did not notice that he was gradually losing the respect of his fellow-classmates, teachers, and commanders. He thought suddenly when he understood that in essence he found himself outside the collective. He really understood, but how could he correct what had happened and, most important, what would be the effect of his habit of dependence in the future, on the officer's independent path?

Finishing the school several years ago a lieutenant, let us call him Klimov, one day told me with bitterness how much he lost by hiding behind his father's reliable back. The latter, it happened, did not even let him take a step independently. And now the young man became an officer. He was not especially worried about the future. He was confident: if something bad happens, his father will interfere and help. But no. The commanders proved to be principled and made demands without concessions, with all strictness. And the lieutenant lost heart--his habit of dependence and inability to overcome difficulties were felt.

"I don't know what to do," said the lieutenant. "My contemporaries have gone far ahead, and I have neither authority nor respect. Evidently, everything must be begun from the start...."

Yes, this is a dangerous thing--prolonged civilian and military maturing. And if there is no concern for it in the cadet years, do not expect successful service. Errors and failures will lie in wait at every step--this has been proven by life. But then, not everyone meditates on this and in the school walls not everyone is able to perceive the simple truth that a long road of service is ahead and it is precisely you who must march along it and no one else and no authority, not even the highest authority of the father or relatives, will replace yours. Nor did several parents of cadets meditate on this. Fortunately, there are few of them.

Among the cadets of our school are many sons of officers and generals who are continuing the traditions of their fathers in a worthy manner and proudly bearing their family honor. Up to now we commanders and teachers warmly remember our alumnus, S. Abramov. At different times his grandfather and father were officers of our school. Both are among those whom the cadets try to imitate and whom they take as an example. During all his years of training cadet Abramov also was an example for his comrades. He completed the school with a gold medal and also succeeded in service--he was promoted to the next military rank ahead of schedule. Now Major Abramov wears two orders which he was awarded for courage and valor in accomplishing his international duty.

In no way did M. Smyagin cast a stain on the good name of his father, a senior instructor of the school, Colonel A. Smyagin. He conducted himself in such a way that his fellow classmates did not even guess that they were related.

Or here is cadet A. Netselya, son of a commander of high rank. Modest, an example, an excellent comrade, and ready to come to the aid of everyone. He had difficulties and failures but he persistently overcame them, displaying enviable persistence and unyieldingness in the attainment of the goal. And even if Netselya turned to his father for help, then it was only to ask his advice and hear his opinion on one question or another.

The father's service status.... It imposes special responsibility on both the parents and the son, all the more if he selected the profession of political officer. On his behavior, on his attitude toward training and his comrades, and on the accomplishment of his military duty. Concern for the maintenance of the father's authority and for family honor obliges the son to be an example in everything without counting on any indulgences and to follow an honest path through life.

I thought about this as I was following with my eyes the "Volga" which was moving away and which carried the cadet to his father's home. I felt sorry for him: he probably does not even suspect how much he is losing and what grief may await him even in the not too distant future behind, it would appear, such a reliable daddy's back.

6367

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MILITARY HISTORY

ESTABLISHMENT, SUCCESS OF 'SECOND FRONT' REVIEWED

PRAVDA Comments

Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 28 May 84, 4 Jun 84

[28 May 84, p 6]

[Article by D. Kraminov under rubric "Lessons of History": "The Truth About the Second Front"]

[Text] June 6 will mark the 40th anniversary of the day when the troops of the Anglo-American Allies landed in Normandy. In Washington it has been decided to mark that anniversary by a sensational international propaganda spectacle with the U.S. president in the main role. Although he had sat out the war years in the zone of the interior, four decades later he got the desire to visit the places of the ancient engagements, turning his face with his well-trained actor's smile not to the dangerous maelstrom of the war, but to the numerous television cameras, and to use the glory of those who had perished in order to present himself to the American voters and the West European viewers.

The anniversary of the opening of the Second Front -- the first front was the Soviet-German Front -- was subjected by the bourgeois mass information media to an unfortunately raucous campaign in which deliberate distortions of history are intertwined with vicious fabrications. In direct contradiction to historically reliable facts, attempts are being made to belittle the contribution made by the Soviet Armed Forces in defeating Nazi Germany and to lessen the importance of the popular antifascist Resistance in many countries of Europe, which was headed by progressive patriotic forces, primarily the Communists. Simultaneously no efforts or paint are being spared in order to depict the "victory" of American weaponry that allegedly saved Europe from fascist enslavement. The recent tragic past of the European continent is being used not for the purpose of consolidating the peace, reinforcing the security of the nations populating it, or developing the cooperation among them, but, rather, for the purpose of inciting hatred and enmity, for the psychological preparation of new war -- this time a nuclear war -- that dooms Europe and European civilization to oblivion. American "leadership" and armed defense in the form of a "nuclear missile umbrella" are being forced on Western Europe. Without that "umbrella," the assurances are given in Washington, Bonn, and London, the West European countries are incapable of preserving their freedom and independence, which are allegedly threatened by the Soviet Union.

The treacherous scheme is designed to appeal to a generation that does not remember, or that has absolutely no knowledge of, the history of the war that was

unleashed in Europe by the criminal Hitlerite gang. Particular efforts are being taken to conceal from that generation the fact that the persons guilty of that war -- the Nazis -- created their colossal military machine thanks to the tremendous financial and material aid provided by American banks and monopolies, and that Chamberlain, who, by his "policy of appeasement," had disrupted the efforts of the USSR to organize "collective defense" in Europe against the fascist aggressor, was backed up by the American ambassador in London, J. Kennedy. Without that aid and obvious encouragement by the reactionary circles of the United States, England, and France, Hitler would not have dared and would not have been able to make the decision to engage in the military adventures that brought to Europe and to Germany itself the colossal calamities, sacrifices, and devastation (and, incidentally, that enables the American monopolies to become fabulously richer, and the United States to become a very strong industrial and military power).

Those who remember history know that the invasion by the Allied troops into France was carried out when the war in Europe had already been in progress for slightly less than five years and only 11 months remained until the complete defeat of the fascist aggressor. Until the beginning of the summer of 1941 Hitler chose and defeated his victims one by one: in September 1939, Poland; in April 1940, Denmark and Norway; in May of the same year, Belgium and Holland; in May-June, France. Starting in June 1941, fascist Germany, which had mobilized the resources of a Europe that had been seized by the Nazis, was opposed, factually speaking, by only the Soviet Union. Its persistent appeals to England and the United States to force the aggressor to fight on two fronts were met by deceptive promises, by evasive excuses and deliberate delaying tactics. The military forces, weapons, and equipment were dispersed over various areas that were remote from the European continent, and operations of secondary importance were presented as being the Second Front, but those operations were easily localized by the Nazi command element using its local means. It was not until late 1943, ten months after the brilliant victory of the Red Army at Stalingrad, and five months after the crushing defeat of the Wehrmacht at the Kursk Salient and the landing of the Anglo-American forces in the south of Italy, that the leaders of the antifascist coalition, at the decisive insistence of I. V. Stalin and despite the wishes and treacherous maneuverings of Churchill, agreed at the Teheran Conference to open the Second Front in Western Europe in the spring of 1944. It was planned for 1 May, but was postponed under various pretexts for a little more than a month.

During the eleven months from the first days of the opening of the Second Front, the person who is writing these lines served as a Soviet military correspondent in the Anglo-American forces that landed in Normandy, and traveled with them until the meeting with the advancing units of the Red Army in the center of a broken and prostrate fascist Germany. The military correspondents, whom General B. Montgomery had given status equivalent to his staff officers, were made completely aware of the scope of the preparation for the Second Front. By the spring of 1944 the total amount of armed forces, with tanks, aircraft, guns, shells, and all other kinds of equipment, was so great that the British Isles, to use the ironic comment made by the commander-in-chief of the Allied forces, General D. Eisenhower, would have sunk to the bottom of the sea if they had been supported by the numerous barrage balloons. In the landing area the Allies had at their disposal a tremendous superiority over the Wehrmacht, both with respect to personnel and with respect to technology: 1200 combat vessels, including battleships, against the Germans'

15 destroyers; 10,000 aircraft against 500; and 2000 tanks against the 145 German tanks.

Having heard, however, the numerous bragging lies in the radio fables of Goebbels and his henchmen concerning the impregnability of "Festung Europa" and the "impenetrability" of the Nazi "Atlantic rampart" along the shore, the generals on the staff of the Allied Expeditionary Forces depicted for us the "improbable difficulties" of invading, and the "inevitability" of prolonged combat engagements and the tremendous losses. The Allies' intelligence did not take into account the information from the French Resistance, which reported both the weakness of the German armed forces in France and the vulnerability of the defensive structures. As was discovered during the very first hours of the landing, the fears of the "Atlantic rampart" proved to be greatly exaggerated. The war correspondents who had been transferred to Normandy soon after the assault found only infrequent reinforced artillery or machinegun nest. There was no "insurmountable rampart" in Normandy.

The Nazi troops, which were ready, to use the words of the Berlin liars. "in a few hours" to throw the invasion troops back into the English Channel, failed to show themselves not only during the first hours, but also during the first days and even weeks. On the morning of the landing, the coastal defense units and those in the first line proved to be without commanders: they were en route to the headquarters of the 7th Army that was defending Normandy, the commander of which had assigned staff war games for 6 June. The strikes by Allied aviation at the roads made it impossible for them to return promptly to their units, which were subjected to fierce attacks from the air and from the sea. Struck by the surprise of the attack and frightened by Hitler's threat to punish him severely, the advanced corps commander, General Dolman, died of cardiorrhesis. The control of the units that were defending the coast of Normandy proved to be temporarily paralyzed. Considering the landing in Normandy to be a diversionary maneuver, the Nazi command element refrained from transferring troops from northern France until the middle of the summer.

The colossal superiority in ground forces and the complete dominance of Allied aviation in the air -- for a period of more than two months of combat engagements in the fight for Normandy we did not see a single German aircraft during the day -- was not used by the Allied command element to seize territory and move out onto the expanses of lowland France that were favorable for the large-scale tank operations. For almost ten months the Allies marked time in Normandy, throwing in newer and newer English and American troops, divisions from Canada and Free France, and Polish and Czechoslovakian units. The unsuccessful attempts to break out of the beachhead, as well as the danger that the American troops that that broken through into Brittany might prove to be cut off from Normandy, forced the Allied command element even to consider plans for evacuating the Anglo-American forces to England. The evacuation plans were rejected when it was discovered that the German troops had suddenly begun a broad retreat in the direction of the German borders. A new defeat on the Soviet-German front had had its effect. After the defeat of the "Center" Army Group in Belorussia, the Nazi command element, worried by the real threat that the Soviet troops might reach the eastern boundaries of the Reich, decided to withdraw its divisions to the Siegfried Line, keeping in France only the coastal fortresses of Brest, St. Nazaire, La Rochelle, and Dunkirk. The Allied forces, which by time numbered approximately 1.5 million persons, were moving after the defeating Germans, encountering only sporadic resistance. By the beginning of the autumn they had approached the Siegfried Line, which had been much

touted by Nazi propaganda, and they stopped again. The attempt that had been based on surprise -- the attempt by the commander of the 21st Army Group, Montgomery, to seize Holland with the aid of the air-assault forces, to break out to the north-western German plain, and to seize Berlin by a lightning-fast rush -- ended in tragic failure at Arnhem, where the 1st English Air-Assault Division suffered tremendous losses, and the Polish brigade that was thrown in to rescue it perished completely.

When the Allies arrived at the Siegfried Line, France -- except for Alsace and Lorraine -- Luxembourg, Belgium, and part of Holland were liberated from Nazi occupation. Much was said and written about that liberation at the time, and even more was said and written about it afterwards, and especially in recent time. The Anglo-American "liberators" considerably exaggerate the contribution made by their own armed forces, deliberating remaining silent about, or distorting, the role played by the national-patriotic forces of the Resistance, which rendered substantial assistance to them.

While still in Normandy the war correspondents met with the first French partisans, and, in the city of Cannes, a partisan detachment. Of course, as compared with the Allies' armies, their armament was weak, but they created serious difficulties to the occupiers in the most vulnerable places and provided the Allied command element with valuable intelligence. As the Allied armies moved deep into France, the partisan detachments were encountered more and more frequently. They were larger and better equipped. A whole province -- Brittany -- was liberated by them prior to the arrival of the Allies. Paris had large partisan forces which, despite the agreement that had been concluded between the Allied Commander in Chief, Eisenhower, and the Nazi chief of the Paris garrison, Holtitz, carried out combat engagements for the capital, preventing the departing fascists from sacking it and taking away prisoners. The Paris partisans under the command of Communist Colonel Rol-Tanguy, actually liberated their home town prior to the arrival of the 2nd French Tank Division of General Leclerc, which had been sent forward. The Commander in Chief of the Allied Forces, D. Eisenhower, admitted that the partisan actions against the Germans after the landing in Normandy were equal in importance to 15 additional divisions.

In Belgium, effective assistance was rendered to the Allied by the partisans in the patriotic Independence Front, which united the forces of the Resistance. The Dutch partisans, in addition to diversions in the rear, provided the Allies with important information. They promptly warned the Allied command element that an SS corps was located in the Arnhem area for rest and recreation and a surprise seizure of the bridge over the Rhine and the city was impossible. However, Montgomery disregarded that warning. He had complete disdain for the "fire-eater with a pistol in his belt" and began what was known beforehand to be a risky adventure, and one that ended in tragic failure.

The Allied command element cooperated in far from a comradely manner with the French, Belgian, and Dutch patriots and comrades in arms. Rigid steps were taken to remove from them the fruits of their victory that had been won during unequal and fierce combat engagements with the fascist occupiers, to split up, weaken, and then to disarm their military formations, to discredit them, and to remove them from the political arena. In individual instances, even military force was used against them.

The national-patriotic forces, which had rendered the most considerable amount of assistance to the antifascist coalition in the countries that were occupied by the Hitlerites and that had paid for that with their blood and with the lives of their best warriors, were deliberately and persistently removed from the agencies of authority, beginning with the ministries and ending with the local municipalities, and were removed from political, cultural, and economic life. The Anglo-American Allies saw in them irreconcilable opponents to their plans with respect to Western Europe. When liberating it from the Nazi usurpers, they intended to force upon it their political and economic dominance. Having chased out, together with the Wehrmacht troops, the German industrialists and bankers who had crept into the economy of France, Belgium, Luxembourg, and Holland, the "liberators" seized their share: in literally a few weeks, thousands of American and hundreds of English corporations became "co-owners" of French, Belgian, Dutch, and Luxembourgish companies.

. . . But the military operations on the Second Front were still far from over. Moreover, the very existence of that front in the course of the further events was suddenly put under threat again.

[4 Jun 84 p 67

The history of the Second Front -- the 40th anniversary of the opening of which is being noted on 6 June -- is being subjected, especially in recent time in Washington and in pro-NATO European circles, to fundamental revision. Its goal is, despite the facts, to belittle the role of the Soviet Union, which made a decisive contribution to the defeat of fascist Germany, and to represent the United States as the liberators of Europe, thus reinforcing the "historical regularity" of the transfer by a number of West European countries of the most cherished right of every sovereign state -- the right to guarantee their security -- to the hands of the transatlantic strategists, and to counteract the popular resistance that hinders the placement of new American missiles and the preparation of a nuclear war that is "limited" to the European continent.

The following article is part two of a documentary report by a Soviet journalist who had been a witness to the preparation for and the landing of the Allied forces in France. (For beginning, see PRAVDA, 28 May.)

Starting in September 1944, when the forces of the Anglo-American Allies arrived at the Siegfried Line, along almost its entire length, other than the extreme northern and extreme southern parts, and until the middle of December of that year, in the West, there were no major combat actions. The Allied command element spent three and a half months in accumulating truly tremendous forces: from north to south they deployed seven Allied armies (1st Canadian, 2nd British, 9th, 1st, 3rd, and 7th American, 1st French). Technology in tremendous quantities was delivered to their immediate rear: tanks, guns, trucks. High piles of boxes of ammunition and gasoline cans stretched out along the roads for dozens of kilometers.

Despite the tremendous superiority in personnel, technology, and equipment, the Allied command element did not display any aggressive initiative and took no pains to reinforce its own defensive positions, primarily in the center of the front, at the

juncture of the 21st British and 12th American Army Groups. The division between them ran along the Meuse River, which twisted around the Ardennes Mountains that had already been used once by the Hitlerite command element. In May 1940, when traveling along unnoticed over the mountain roads, the Nazi tanks crushed the poorly armed French infantry divisions between Sedan and Dinan, destroyed the Franco-English front almost in the very middle, and dashed along the northeastern plain to the English Channel.

In December 1944 the Nazi command element, taking advantage of the inaction of the Anglo-American Allies, decided to repeat once again the successful dash across the Ardennes Mountains. By the middle of the month, under the cover of clouds, the Nazi command element collected into the Cologne area two tank armies and one combined-arms army, transported them across the Rhine, and threw them over the familiar mountain roads to the west. The 1st American Army that had not been expecting a strike was literally swept off its poorly reinforced positions. It lost all its fuel and ammunition reserves. The 3rd and 9th Armies suffered large losses. The attacking German formations moved across the Ardennes in the direction of Dinan and Sedan. They intended to reach the Meuse River, cut off the American-English front, and make a dash, as in 1940, to the English Channel, on the shore of which, at Dunkirk, a well armed German garrison was sitting it out, or to the North Sea.

Once again, as during those difficult days of combat engagements in Normandy, the staff of the 21st Army Group and the war correspondents who were located alongside of it in Brussels caught rumors about the preparation of the retreat to the sea and even the possibility of evacuating to England the Allied forces that had been cut off in Belgium. The discussion about a "second Dunkirk" went on not only at the headquarters, but also in the military units that had occupied the defense to the north of the Ardennes.

The difficult situation forced the Anglo-American Allies to look for aid in Moscow, where the British deputy command in chief, Air Marshal Tedder, had been urgently sent. Without waiting for his arrival in the Soviet capital, Prime Minister Churchill on 6 January 1945 sent a telegram to I. V. Stalin. "Very fierce combat engagements are in progress in the West," the message said, "and at any time major decisions may be required of the Supreme High Command. . . General Eisenhower would very much like to know, and needs to know, in general features what you propose to do, since that, of course, will have an effect upon all of his and our very important decisions. I will greatly appreciate your communicating to me whether we can count on a major Russian offensive on the Vistula front or somewhere else during January. . . I consider this matter to be urgent."

The answer from Moscow came almost immediately. "Taking into consideration the situation of our Allies on the Western Front," I. V. Stalin said in a telegram to Churchill on 7 January, "the Supreme High Command has decided to use an intensified rate to complete the preparation and, without taking the weather into consideration, to open up broad offensive actions against the German along the entire central front no later than the second half of January. You can rest assured that we will do everything that can be done to render assistance to our glorious Allied troops." The powerful Soviet offensive that had been planned for 20 January was accelerated: it began on 12 January.

The rapid advance of the Soviet troops, which created an immediate threat to the borders of Germany itself, and the upsurge of the antifascist struggle being waged by the peoples in the already occupied countries of Europe, which struggle developed, as it had, for example, in Yugoslavia, into a large-scale liberation war, upset Hitler's plans. It was necessary to reject the original plans to make a dash to the English Channel and to force the political and military leadership of England and the United States to engage in negotiations with him. Limiting itself to the disruption of the American-British preparations for an invasion of the territory of Germany proper, and to the seizure of tremendous amounts of military supplies, the Hitlerite command element began to withdraw its troops from the Ardennes and to transfer them hurriedly to the German-Soviet front, where the fate of the Third Reich was being decided. However, the Anglo-American invasion of Germany that was being planning for early 1945 was postponed by almost three months.

The Nazi adventurers who had plunged Europe and then a large part of the world into a war that was catastrophic in its consequences attempted to replace their diminishing strength by sensationalistic bragging about the "impregnability of 'Festung Deutschland.'" The German soldiers were forced to fight until to the very last by being given the promise of a "miracle weapon." The Anglo-American forces were frightened by the "invincibility" first of the Siegfried Line, and then the "Western rampart," and, finally, the Rhine.

The Allied troops, without any special efforts, left the Siegfried Line behind them. Having begun the movement in an easterly direction, they crossed with almost no hindrance the "impregnable rampart," and with brief local combat engagements reached the Rhine, beyond which lay the Hitlerite "smithy of the war" -- the Ruhr.

The preparations for the combat engagements for the Rhine were carried out by the Allies over a period of several weeks. New divisions with amphibious tanks and armored personnel carriers were brought up. Field-type airdromes were set up in the immediate rear. The 1st Air Assault Army that had been tattered in the autumn in Holland and that had been replenished was prepared in southern England for a jump to the other side of the Rhine. The powerful Allied aviation made continuous strikes at the eastern shore and the nearby targets. During the week that preceded the nights when the Rhine was forced, almost 15,000 sorties of heavy bombers were carried out, more than 7000 sorties of medium bombers, and slightly less than 30,000 combat sorties of fighters that fired at ground targets in the almost complete lack of German aviation -- it was carrying out combat engagements on the Eastern Front where the battle for Berlin was being prepared. On the night of the attack -- 23 March -- thousands of heavy British Lancasters and American Flying Fortresses approached the Rhine in wave after wave, dropping their destructive cargo on the defenders' positions.

In the morning the Allies, having met only insignificant resistance in individual sectors, were on the eastern bank of the Rhine on a broad front and they rapidly advanced farther to the east. The units of the 3rd and 1st American Armies that were operating farther to the south crossed the Rhine earlier and they also were moving toward the east in individual sectors with a speed of up to 40 kilometers a day. The tanks of the 9th American Army which had forced the Rhine near Wesel, advanced with a speed of from 35 to 45 kilometers a day. The air assault army that had been dropped by parachute and on gliders to "suppress the resistance" of the enemy, did not even see the enemy, and the only thing that the paratroopers

could do was to fold up their parachutes and get into formation along the roads, waiting for the trucks to pick them up.

Although in certain sectors of the front, especially in the encirclement, individual units of the Wehrmacht, and primarily the SS troops, fought with the ferocity of the doomed, the German army as a whole in the west put up weaker and weaker resistance. By the first half of March one noted instances of the group surrender not only of the "people's grenadiers," but also of tank men with their combat vehicles. By the end of March, especially after crossing the Rhine, those surrenders became massive: during that month alone, the Allies took 350,000 prisoners.

The Nazi "smithy of the war" -- the Ruhr -- was being defended by 18 divisions, including the 1st Parachute Army and the 5th Tank Army. They put up practically no resistance against two American tank divisions which -- one moving to the south of the Ruhr, and the other to the north of it -- in a few days "surrounded" the industrial area that was tremendous from the point of view of territory and population. The Americans captured 300,000 more prisoners (the Allied command element had expected no more than 100,000).

Five American armies continued to move to the east, meeting almost no resistance: the Wehrmacht formations laid down their weapons and surrendered. The command element of the 21st Army Group, however, delayed the advance of the British and Canadian troops, when representatives of Grand-Admiral Doenitz, who had been appointed, after the surrounding of Berlin by Soviet troops, the commander in chief of all the German armed forces in the north, established contact with Montgomery. Their negotiations ended with the arrival at the headquarters of the 21st Army Group of the chief of staff of the German forces that had been operating in Holland, Denmark, and Northern Germany, General-Admiral Friedeburg and with the signing of an agreement governing the capitulation of those troops to the Canadians and the British. The next person to arrive at Montgomery's headquarters after Friedeburg was the chief of staff of the "Vistula" Army Group that had been fighting on the Eastern Front, General-Lieutenant Kienzel, who proposed the capitulation of the three armies in that group. On the basis of the immediately concluded agreement, the command element of the "Vistula" Group cleared the roads so that the 6th British Air Assault Division and the 18th American Air Assault Corps, traveling on jeeps and trucks, would be able within a few hours to reach the cities of Wismar and Schwerin, to which the troops of the 2nd Belorussian Front were approaching.

The "incomprehensible" haste with which the Allied command went to meet halfway the Nazis who were extremely anxious to avoid having to pay for the crimes they had committed on the temporarily occupied Soviet territory was explained at that time only by the alleged desire to put an end to the war as quickly as possible, by humanitarian considerations, etc. Soon, however, it was discovered that the Nazi troops that had capitulated were being sent to Schleswig-Holstein, where, in Flensburg, the government of the new "fuehrer" who had been appointed by Hitler -- Doenitz -- was based. The troops were deployed in the cities and settlements of that province in entire formations and units, preserving their military order as well as their weapons.

Subsequently it became known that Montgomery's agreements with General-Admiral Friedeburg and General-Lieutenant Kienzel were signed on the personal instructions

of Prime Minister Churchill. Failing to prevent the creation of the Second Front in Western Europe or to postpone its opening until an even later time, he was attempting to limit the advance of the Soviet troops to the west. After the failure of the plan to rush across Italy to the Balkans, until the last days London was filled with plans according to which the Anglo-American troops were supposed to be the first to enter Berlin, Vienna, Prague, and thus to stop the Red Army at a distance from Central Europe. In direct violation of the agreements that had been reached in Yalta by the leaders of the antifascist coalition, what was actually carried out was a deal with the new "fuehrer," although Doenitz, when informing the Germans about his elevation to that status by Hitler, issued to the Anglo-American Allies a provocational appeal to fight together against the "Bolshevik peril." Under the cover of British weapons, for a long time tremendous Nazi armed forces were preserved in the northwest. Their officer complement subsequently became the skeleton of the Bundeswehr.

On the insistence of the Allies, and primarily the USSR, the Doenitz government nevertheless was arrested, and the "fuehrer" himself was sent to Nuremberg, to be punished together with the other main Nazi criminals.

The chief lesson in the Allied interrelationships during World War II consists in the fact that historical confirmation was given to the possibility of using joint efforts to bridle political and military adventurists such as the leaders of the fascist Third Reich had shown themselves to be. The cooperation among the Allies during the war, despite all its contradictions, shortcomings, and frictions, embodied the will of the people for freedom and independence, for fruitful peace and the peaceful coexistence of states with different social systems. It helped to mark the paths of the postwar reorganization in Central Europe and to lay the foundations of a worldwide organization -- the United Nations -- that plays an increasingly active role as the expresser of the striving of peoples of our planet for peace without wars, without aggressions, without the use of military force, without the fear about tomorrow, a fear that has been engendered by the threat of nuclear catastrophe. The blood that was shed on the fields of combat by the peoples of the anti-Hitlerite coalition, the sacrifices made on the altar of the common victory by the heroes of the antifascist combat waged by all the European nations, demand, in the name of their memory and the future of mankind, the prevention of the present-day political and military adventurists from opposing Western Europe to Eastern Europe, from unleashing a "limited" or other kind of nuclear war that threatens the destruction of the cradle of European civilization.

An Englishman's Perspective

Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 24 May 84 p 5

[Article by James Aldridge, London, under rubric "Pages of History": "'Overlord' Today and in 1944"]

[Text] The West is preparing to mark broadly, and with much pomp, the 40th anniversary of the opening of the Second Front in Europe. The landing of the Allied troops in Normandy on 6 June 1944 actually was one of the important events in the history of World War II, and it contributed to bringing nearer the completely natural end of Hitlerite

Germany. But there are certain people today who would like to use Operation Overlord to force nations to forget the contribution that was made by the Soviet Union to the liberation of Europe from the yoke of Hitlerism, to force on people the idea that the United States was the "savior of European civilization." The actuality, however, was quite different. Recollections and thoughts about that actuality are shared by a witness to the events of that period, a well-known British writer.

I arrived in Moscow in 1944 in order to work as a war correspondent. At that time it seemed that the war would last for a very long time. Almost all of Western Europe was under the fascist boot. Even after the treacherous attack by Hitlerite Germany upon the Soviet Union it seemed that the struggle would last ten or fifteen years, or even longer, before the cruel enemy would be defeated.

In Egypt, where I happened to be working as a war correspondent prior to my arrival in the USSR, the combat engagements were being carried out with various degrees of success. Our field of combat was the lifeless desert. We would alternately advance, seizing from the enemy hundreds of miles of sterile sand, and then withdraw, yielding to the enemy what we had seized. If one does not include the Battle of Britain -- the air war in which British pilots bravely opposed the aces of the fascist Luftwaffe, in the attempt to prevent them from bombing the British Isles -- it was only in Egypt and partially in Greece that the British forces fought against the Hitlerites and their Italian satellites. At that time that was our only and, I daresay, more than modest participation in the war. All our efforts could not even prevent Hitler from preparing his war machine for an invasion into the USSR.

In the sands of the Western Desert in Egypt, many of us began to feel a sense of distrust in our generals and even in those who stood above them. It was not until after the attack by Hitlerite Germany upon the Soviet Union that we were firmly convinced that, in the person of the USSR, we were acquiring a reliable ally that was ready to carry to its completion the difficult fight against fascism. Our soldiers, who had lost their confidence in the British command element, were inclined to respect their Soviet ally more than their own generals.

At the present time it is simply impossible to recreate those feelings that we had when the Red Army stopped the brown-shirted hordes at the very threshold of Moscow. For the first time (starting in the 1920's, when Hitler began to struggle to get into power, and then to gain world domination) we felt hope springing up in our hearts: had the fascist monster really been defanged this time? The Battle of Moscow lit up a spark of optimism, and changed our view about the future outcome of the war. But it was only the unprecedentedly ferocious Battle of Stalingrad and the complete defeat of the Hitlerites on the Volga that gave us firm conviction about the inevitable defeat of the aggressor.

For the Soviet Union the war proved to be a difficult test. At the very moment of the foundation of the USSR, the young socialist country had become the object of intervention on the part of almost all the leading countries of Europe, as well as the United States and Japan. And now millions of people in enslaved Europe, and the entire world, were watching carefully to see whether the Soviet nation would take control of Hitler. They linked their hopes about liberation from under the fascist yoke with the victory of the Soviet Union. When I arrived in Moscow as a war correspondent, I realized that in order to win, it was necessary to fight. But one question gave me no peace: at what price would victory be achieved?

The fact of the matter is that I still had fresh in my memory the recollection of the Munich deal, when, in 1938, the governments of Great Britain and France tried to direct the striking force of the Hitlerite hordes toward the East, against the Soviet Union. They hoped that the USSR and Germany would completely weaken one another in their bloody struggle. Even when Great Britain had already entered the war against fascism and English soldiers were shedding blood on the fields of combat, the treacherous spirit of Munich was sensed in the Britain imperial policy and the foreign policy of the United States. This throws light upon the reason for the constant delays in the opening up of the Second Front at a time when it was especially necessary. At that time in Moscow it was very difficult for me to explain to my friends why the West was refusing to fulfill its pledges.

Now we know many times more than we did then about the Anglo-American plans. But during the war years we also were well aware that the question of the opening of the Second Front was dictated not only by military necessity. It was the touchstone on which one tested the reciprocal trust among the allies in the anti-Hitlerite coalition. I recall how, after the combat engagement near Vitebsk, when we were examining what remained of a fascist tank column, a young Soviet officer remarked with bitter irony, "Yes, Churchill wants to defeat Hitler, but probably not to this extent." While saying that, he eloquently nodded at the burnt-out hulls of the enemy tanks.

The battle for the East, when judged on the basis of its scope and its ferocity, has absolutely no comparison with what we in Egypt called the war. I cannot say that I had been a witness to many large-scale engagements. But that which I had happened to see had been for me a true revelation. I was struck not only by the scope of the combat engagements, but also by the single striving by the front and the rear to gain victory. I was also struck by the spirit of organization and discipline. As a person who had arrived from a small theater of military actions in the African desert, I was dumbfounded not only by the scope of the combat engagements, but also the unity when the command element and the troops constituted, as it were, a single organism, and without that there could be no victory over fascism. Hitler bragged about the organization and discipline among his divisions. But here, on the Soviet front, the conquerors of Europe were completely demoralized.

Memory sorrowfully guards the price of the victory of the Soviet nation. Victory without that all-encompassing aid that the West had promised. But among Soviet citizens there was an excellent trait: none of them thought about anything except victory over the cruel enemy. And there was, for the Soviet citizen, no sacrifice that he was not ready to withstand for the sake of that victory. The spirit of Munich was alien to Soviet citizens, and they selflessly went into the combat. All the British and American correspondents in Moscow were completely aware of that, even those who had a hostile attitude toward the Soviet Union. Most of them had felt a sense of embarrassment and shame, seeing ordinary people, in the name of victory, making sacrifices for it. The difficult situation could have been eased by the combat actions of the Allies in the West. But where would the Second Front be opened? When? Why were the Allies constantly delaying the beginning of the combat actions? And when would the Red Army finally receive any real help? We asked ourselves those questions each and every day.

At that time British and American military missions were located in Moscow. It seems to me that most of the officers had friendly feelings toward the Soviet

Union. But there were also those who had a disdainful and even hostile attitude toward the Red Army. Several of them did everything in the attempt to belittle the importance of the great victory at Stalingrad. For example, one American general stated that the Russians had won only because they had the numerical superiority. A British tank instructor philosophized that the Russians did not know anything about tanks, and they made their tanks too heavy by adding on extra armament. The tank engagement at the Kursk Salient -- an engagement that was completely unprecedented in the history of wars -- completely devastated the pontifical statements of the arrogant specialist. It was the excellent mastery of the technology -- the aviation, tanks, and self-propelled guns -- rather than simply the numerical superiority, that brought the Soviet nation victory in that engagement.

Those who undertook a supercilious criticism of the Soviet tanks, aircraft, and even the valor of the soldiers, not only did not take part in the engagements, but were not even witnesses to a single one of the battles that were waged on the territory of the Ukraine and Belorussia. They had arrived in the Soviet Union with preconceived notions. It is probably for that reason that it took 30 years for the great tank engagement at the Kursk Salient to win itself a place in the books published in the West on the history of World War II.

And so the opening of the Second Front never was simply the automatic result of an agreement among allies. The Western side promised to enter the war at the proper moment with all the manpower and means that it had available. The agreement was concluded, but at that time we could only guess about its details. Now, thanks to the memoirs, documents, and witnesses, we know that Churchill, for example, was completely opposed to the Second Front in France: he insisted that the Allied armies should invade the Balkans and occupy them until the Red Army arrived.

It is to the credit of U.S. President F. Roosevelt that he not only did not agree with the British prime minister, but also did everything to oppose his idea. However strange it may appear now, F. Roosevelt at that time shared the point of view of the Soviet government concerning the strategy of conducting the war. But at that time the godfather of the American CIA, Allen Welsh Dulles, was in Switzerland, where he was organizing separate negotiations with the Nazi emissary, General Wolf. . . .

Nevertheless, the long-awaited day finally arrived -- the Allied armies landed on the coast of Normandy. Moscow greeted the landing as a sign that the war was coming to its victorious conclusion. There is no doubt that the assault in Normandy had been thought out as a large-scale combat operation. Many soldiers laid down their lives on the sandy beaches and in the subsequent combat engagements on the territory of France and Germany. British and American soldiers entered the war in the West. And that was done despite the resistance put up by certain political figures. Young Englishmen and Americans went to their death convinced that the evil that they were destroying would never be reborn.

However, we now learn from documents that the opening of the Second Front was caused partially by. . . fear. In the political circles of the West there was a realization that the Red Army, in its victorious offensive, was far from exhaustion and could independently defeat the enemy. What, then, would be the share to

go to the West? In London and Washington, people began talking all at once about the "offensive against Berlin," as though that city was the sole target of the landing. The appeals issued by the politicians were seized up by the press and the military began to repeat them loudly.

The combat engagements in the west of Europe were completely incomparable with the battles that the Red Army had been waging. Taking that into consideration does not mean attempting to belittle the heroism and personal valor of the American and British soldiers who participated in them. It is simply stating a fact. Their sacrifices and their glory are betrayed when people forget the ideals for which they fought and died in the combat engagements against the Hitlerites. But they were betrayed. Truman, who inherited the presidential position after Roosevelt's death, quickly perceived the Hitlerite ideas of world dominance. In addition to the delirious plans of the raving Fuehrer, Truman brought from Potsdam Churchill's plan concerning the need to preserve the captured weaponry which, in his opinion, like the Wehrmacht itself, might be needed in a new war -- a war against Soviet Russia. Is that really the reason why the English and American lads laid down their lives on the sandy shores of Normandy?

This year will commemorate a jubilee of the date of the landing of the Allies in Normandy. U.S. President Reagan and other leaders of the West will come to the French shore of the English Channel. Let us hope that each of them, mentally returning to that year of 1944, will ask himself today what he will be thinking about here, in a Normandy that was washed with the blood of those who went into combat for a noble and just cause -- the cause of destroying fascism and war itself. Let us hope that they will remember the Red Army, that was able, practically speaking, to destroy the Wehrmacht before the Allied forces had landed on the shores of France.

And let us hope that they will remember Hitler, who once found for himself an opponent whom he hoped to conquer with the aid of intimidations, insults, false propaganda, and, finally, military strength. True, Hitler did not have any cruise missiles. But he himself possessed the "awareness of a cruise missile" -- the perverted awareness of a killer-maniac. And it would be a genuine tragedy, the complete consigning to oblivion of the memory of those who perished on the beaches of Normandy in 1944, it would be treason to all subsequent generations, if any modern cruise missiles were ever allowed to rush toward the east, following Hitler's trail.

Lt Gen Lyashchenko Comments

Moscow SEL'SKAYA ZHIZN' in Russian 5 Jun 84 p 3

[Interview with General of the Army N. G. Lyashchenko: "Operation Overlord: The Second Front -- Facts and Fiction"]

[Text] Nikolay Grigoryevich Lyashchenko is a well-known Soviet military leader who was an active participant in the Great Patriotic War. He has been in the USSR Armed Forces since 1929. In 1937-1939, as an internationalist volunteer, he fought the fascists in Spain. During the years of the Great Patriotic War he commanded a regiment, and a division on the Southern, Southwestern, Volkhov, Leningrad, and

2nd Belorussian Fronts. During the postwar period he commanded the troops in a number of military districts and is currently assigned to the central apparatus of the USSR Ministry of Defense. SEL'SKAYA ZHIZN' special correspondent V. Izgarshev recently had a meeting with General of the Army N. G. Lyashchenko. The following is their discussion.

[Question] Comrade General of the Army, the editorial office currently receives a large number of letters in which the readers ask about the opening of the Second Front in Europe. This, for example, is what Aleksandr Andreyevich Kudyravstev writes from the village of Krasnaya Osyp, Kostroma Oblast: "Could you please tell us in more detail what was the scope of the Second Front and what role it played in World War II?" As a front-liner, Nikolay Grigor'yevich, you probably have an especially clear memory of those days when the Second Front was opened in Europe. Do you remember how you and your combat comrades met the news about it?"

[Answer] How could I fail to remember? We met the news well. How could it have been otherwise? Finally the Allies had kept their pledge. Because as early as the summer of 1942 a complete agreement had been reached among the governments of the USSR, the United States, and England about the creation of the Second Front in Europe in 1942. On 12 June 1942 an appropriate Soviet-American communique and Soviet-British communique on this subject were published. But the year 1942 passed and the Allies had made no plans to carry out their solemn pledge.

In 1943 W. Churchill wrote that the leaves would not have time to fall from the trees before a Second Front was opened in Western Europe. The leaves fell, winter passed, and then the spring of 1944. New leaves appeared on the trees. And still the promised Second Front did not appear. And when the entire world became absolutely certain about the outcome of the war and when the Soviet troops had completely cleared the territory of their country from the fascist scum, and when the question of liberating Europe from the fascist usurpers by the Soviet Army, the Allies began Operation Overlord -- the forcing of the English Channel and the landing in the north of France.

Of course, both then and now, all of us Soviet citizens put the proper evaluation on the contribution made by the Allies to the attainment of Victory over fascist Germany. We give credit to the bravery of the American and British soldiers who made the jump across the English Channel. Obviously, it would have been fine and the act of true allies if that operation had happened a couple of years earlier. In 1942 there was a special need for the Second Front.

I cannot fail to mention what, in my opinion, is a curious episode. This happened after the Victory. Our division was located in Germany alongside the 51st Scottish Division. I had the occasion to meet its commander, Brigadier General Barber, several times. Once we agreed to compare our strengths at a soccer game. We got together a team of amateur soccer players. We just barely managed to find uniforms for them. But the Britishers came out onto the field in freshly ironed soccer shirts and shorts. Brand new uniforms. How extraordinary! They all dashed toward our soccer players. They kept feeling them and embracing them. What was going on? It turned out that they were fascinated by the traces of the wounds, the scars, that abundantly decorated each of our eleven amateur soccer

players. I must say that the Britishers had a tremendous amount of respect in their attitude toward our soccer-playing fighters.

General Barber said with displeasure, "You even had to introduce politics into this. You put your wounds up for display."

"Did you see politics in wounds?" I asked him. "Fine! Because we fought for four years, and what did you do? Instead of opening up the Second Front, you got involved in soccer. Now that's politics for you!"

The delay in opening up the Second Front was thought out ahead of time by political plan. As early as 22 June 1941 no one else but the future U. S. President, Harry Truman publicly expressed his desire to the Russians and Germans that they would kill as many of one another as possible. Their plan was simple: the Allies were waiting for the USSR, in single-handed combat with fascist Germany and its satellites, to exhaust the Hitlerite coalition, bleed it white, and bring it to the brink of catastrophe, and, in that single-handed combat, would also become weaker itself and would lose its importance as a great power.

[Question] And so, instead of opening the Second Front in Europe in 1942, the Allies, for purposes of creating a blind, engaged in the so-called "peripheral strategy"?

[Answer] There is no other name that you can give to their actions -- or, rather, their inactions. By the end of autumn in 1942 they landed in North Africa. In 1943 they landed in Sicily and the south of Italy. . . . Bourgeois historians of the type of Britishers A. Selby, W. McElvey, and their like attempt now to apply to these operations the name of a second front. No, gentlemen! The peripheral military expeditions of the troops under General Eisenhower, which were carried out in areas that were remote from the vitally important areas of Germany, which constituted absolutely no threat to the Third Reich, did not attract to themselves any 30-40 Wehrmacht divisions, as has been stated. It is well known that in North Africa, the Anglo-American forces were opposed by from 9 to 20 enemy divisions. In Italy there were from 7 to 26. Even after the opening of the Second Front the number of fascist troops on the Soviet-German Front remained 2-2.5 times greater than in the West European and Italian theaters of the war, taken together.

[Question] And despite these incontrovertible facts, the attempt is being made today in the West to present the Second Front as being the decisive one, the chief one. . . .

[Answer] As for presenting it, that is one thing they know how to do. But, first of all, how decisive can it be if it is still the "second" one? That meant that there was a first! It had existed for four years, but the Second Front did not exist for even a year. Secondly, throughout the war the chief forces of the Hitlerite army were on the Soviet-German front. That is where all the most important engagements of World War II took place. And then, after the opening of the Second Front, in the course of the summer-autumn campaign, the Soviet Army advanced along a front that ran for 4,250 kilometers. But what were the Allies doing? In the west of Europe, their offensive front constituted 600-800 kilometers, and in Italy, 300 kilometers. During six months of offensive

our troops traveled, in individual sectors, as much as 1200 kilometers; but the Allies traveled a total of only 260-450 kilometers. It must also be kept in mind that during the days when the Allied troops were fighting in Normandy, the Soviet Army began a powerful offensive in Belorussia, in the course of which the basic forces of the fascists' "Center" Army Group were destroyed.

In November the forward advance of the Allies was completely stopped, and a little while later we had to rescue them when the fascists had applied strong pressure to them in the Ardennes.

[Question] It was at that time that W. Churchill asked I. V. Stalin to speed up the offensive on the Eastern Front. . .

[Answer] Our country rendered assistance without any delay to the Allies. On 12 January, we began, ahead of schedule, a powerful offensive on the Soviet fronts from the Baltic to the Carpathians.

I remember as though it was only yesterday the day when the offensive began. The weather was worse than you could imagine. I got a telephone call at the command and observation post from the front commander, Marshal of the Soviet Union K.K. Rokossovskiy. "How's the offensive going?" he asked. "It's difficult," I answered. "There is a very dense fog. I can't even see my chief of staff and he's standing only two steps away from me."

"That's not so bad. Things have been worse. We have to rescue the Allies."

By our offensive in Poland, the Allied troops in the Ardennes were saved from defeat.

The truth of history is such that it is precisely our country -- the world's first country of socialism -- that bore on its shoulders the basic weight of the war that had been unleashed on it by imperialism. The Soviet Union completely fulfilled its international duty and its duty as an ally in the war. Grateful mankind will always keep in its memory the great exploit of the Soviet nation.

[Question] And this is what the falsifiers of history attempt not to remember. As they prepare lavishly, with much pomp, to observe the 40th anniversary of the landing of the Anglo-American forces in Normandy, the people in the West are publishing pamphlets, articles, and treatises in which not a single word is said about our joint struggle against fascism. On 6 June they plan, according to what was stated in a certain Paris newspaper, to carry out an "encore landing," that is, to repeat for the viewers what had happened 40 years earlier.

[Answer] I read that the U.S. president, the queen of Great Britain, the president of France, and the prime minister of Canada will go to the beaches of Normandy. At sunrise on 6 June, a landing using amphibious vessels of that era will be carried out. Fighter aircraft will stage air combat engagements. In a word, all kinds of things will be happening.

Everything has been carefully arranged. Well, if they have decided to entertain one another and the invited guests with all this display, that's fine -- let them entertain one another. But all this display has a clearly expressed anti-Soviet

direction to it. The arrangers of the stupendous American "show" on the Normandy beaches want not only to belittle the contribution made by the Soviet Union to the defeating of fascist Germany, and to falsify the history of World War II and the history of the Second Front, but also to present this 40-year-old landing operation as the absolutely first one in "defending" Europe against "Soviet expansionism." Those are the sorts of things that one can say when one is carried away by the excitement of organizing new "campaigns" against communism.

[Question] Nikolay Grigor'yevich, at the All-Army Conference of Secretaries of Komsomol Organizations, the speech by Comrade K.-U. Chernenko revealed to the entire world those reactionary imperialistic circles which cannot become reconciled to the chief tendency in present-day world development. . .

[Answer] I was a participant at that conference. As a military man who has given more than half a century of his life to service for our Motherland, I approve with all my heart the statements and conclusions in that brilliant speech by Konstantin Ustinovich Chernenko. The Soviet Union and the countries of the socialist community are constantly taking initiatory steps that are aimed at the consolidation of the peace. It is apropos to state that the experience of our cooperation with the United States and England during the years of the past war, our joint struggle against a common enemy, attest to the real capabilities even today of living in peace and friendship, of defending the interests of the peace and security of all countries, irrespective of their social system.

Our party and government are doing everything to prevent a new world catastrophe. But those who lack good will, those who are deaf to the arguments of reason, must know that our party and our entire nation are constantly concerned about our defensive potential. Its restraining might is not only the guarantee of the creative labor of the Soviet nation, but also a guarantee of universal peace on earth.

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FOREIGN MILITARY AFFAIRS

WESTERN ANTI-TANK, ANTI-AIRCRAFT MISSILE LAUNCHERS EXAMINED

Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 20 Jun 84 p 3

[Article by Col (Res) N. Grishin, candidate of technical sciences: "At Aerial and Ground Targets"]

[Text] The idea of creating a general-purpose missile complex capable of destroying enemy airplanes and helicopters as well as tanks is not new. Judging from press reports, the first attempts to realize it abroad relate to the beginning of the 1960's. The experimental self-propelled unit, the Harpoon, with SS-11 antitank missiles which was created in France was the first step on the path toward "general-purpose" weapons. However, its tests showed that the SS-11 missile which was wire-guided and had a velocity of 190 meters per second proved to be incapable of combating even "slow" helicopters, not to mention high-speed airplanes.

In subsequent years various companies which specialize in the production of weapons undertook the development of the general-purpose complex which received the designation ADATS. They included, in particular, the Swiss Oerlikon and American Martin-Marietta companies. But they also encountered an entire series of problems difficult to resolve. After a series of failures which were widely discussed in the Western press, hope for success appeared.

In the fall of 1981, launchings of the first missiles from a fixed launcher were conducted at the range at White Sands (United States) and several elements of the ADATS complex were also tested. In the spring of 1983, a check of a test model of an antiaircraft and antitank defense system took place at Eglin Air Force Base. Altogether about 50 missiles were launched (Photo 2) [not reproduced].

Just what is this complex? According to reports of the journal AVIATION WEEK AND SPACE TECHNOLOGY, it includes: a missile in a transporter-launcher container (TPK) a radar for the detection of aerial targets, infrared and television systems for target tracking, an optical sight for firing under conditions of good visibility, and laser missile guidance equipment, laser rangefinder, computer, and launcher.

In striving to satisfy the requirements of the customer, the company settled on a solid-fuel missile with a launch weight of 51 kilograms, length of 2.05 meters, body diameter of 152 millimeters, and flight speed $M = 3$ (about 1 kilometer per second). This was caused by the striving to ensure a high rate of fire. A

hollow-charge high-explosive warhead has a weight of 12 kilograms. It was decided to equip it with two types of fuzes: mechanical (contact) and electron-optical (proximity), and with a microprocessor which could automatically determine which of the two fuzes should be triggered when firing on aerial targets. When using the missile against tanks, the proximity fuze is switched off to avoid premature detonation of the warhead.

The creators of the system presume that the range for firing at aerial targets will be 0.5 to 0.8 kilometers (altitude range is 5 kilometers) and ground targets will be hit at a distance up to 6 kilometers. Guidance of the missile to the "objects" is accomplished using a laser of continuous emission. Encoded commands are picked up by receivers on two vanes of the missile's unfolding tail assembly.

The creation of the radar also required certain efforts. According to a report of the journal AVIATION WEEK AND SPACE TECHNOLOGY, it is an improved version of the LPD-20 Doppler radar produced by the Italian firm of Contraves. According to reports in the foreign press, the radar can operate from in place and in movement, detect airplanes and helicopters at ranges out to 20 kilometers, and track 6 targets simultaneously. The station is connected with an IFF identification system and puts out target coordinates (azimuth and range) on a display.

The ADATS complex is equipped with infrared and television (passive) target detection and tracking systems. The concept is as follows: to hamper detection of the complex, decrease the effect of radio jamming created by the enemy, and reduce the probability of the complex' destruction by antiradar homing missiles. Here it is assumed that passive systems should be used to detect and track ground and aerial targets when it is required to increase the secrecy of the complex' operation or under conditions where the enemy employs electronic-countermeasure equipment. In the latter case, range to the target is determined by the laser rangefinder which operates in the pulsed mode.

In striving to attain a high degree of automation of the combat work, the complex includes a computer. The computer should evaluate information on targets which reaches its memory, determine the degree of their danger, and put out recommendations for the sequence of fire. Based on the battle conditions, foreign observers note, the operator or commander will be able to select the most dangerous target, after which the complex will automatically turn in its direction and, as soon as it enters the zone of destruction, missiles will be launched.

All elements of the complex, including eight missiles, are mounted in an armored turret with all-around rotation which is installed on the chassis of the American M113A2 tracked transporter. Eight more missiles (placed in the TPK) are in the body of the armored transporter. The turret with the complex weighs 4.5 tons. Angles of vertical fire are from -9 to +85 degrees.

Tests of the complex' test models showed that it needs modification and, therefore, it is necessary to increase the number of test launchings. Up to the middle of 1984, writes the journal ARMY, it is planned to flight test another 36 missiles. In the opinion of foreign specialists, it can be expected that in 1985 ADATS will begin to reach the troops. It is noted that the weight of the complex on the chassis is 14 tons, which permits transporting it by air not only by heavy and medium airplanes, but also by helicopters.

Abroad, they are sparing no resources in advertising the new complex. They assume that in the arms trade market ADATS will be able to compete with all existing short-range surface-to-air missile complexes including the British Rapier, American Chapparel, French Crotale, and French-West German Roland-2.

Even today the Pentagon is developing the organization for future large units and units of the so-called "Army-90." In particular, the ARMED FORCES JOURNAL presents on its pages a "model" of a light infantry division of 1986 in which it is intended to have 4 batteries with 16 ADATS complexes in each. Interest in the complex is being displayed not only by European countries of the NATO bloc. In particular, recently the journal INTERNATIONAL DEFENSE REVIEW reported that talks between the Oerkilon company and the Swedish Defense Ministry are close to conclusion and that the ministry intends to use the complex first of all on its prospective helicopter. It is planned to arm other latest combat helicopters with it, too, including the American AH-64 Apache. The "helicopter version" of the general-purpose complex is planned for use, first of all, to destroy enemy anti-tank helicopters and then--to engage tanks.

But nevertheless, despite the ballyhoo and glib publicity for the new weapon which is filled with electronics, it has an "Achilles heel"--tremendous cost. This is also admitted in Washington, but they are trying to speak more of the "advantages" of ADATS in the expectation of fabulous profits which the arms race promises the military-industrial complex.

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AFGHANISTAN

TASHKENT LAUDS REVOLUTIONARY PROGRESS IN DRA

GF241345 Tashkent International Service in Uzbek 1700 GMT 20 Jun 84

[Unattributed commentary: "Afghanistan--Its Struggle and Work"]

[Excerpts] Dear listeners, reports from Kabul say that the DRA security forces have crushed counterrevolutionary bands operating in eight provinces in Afghanistan. In general, the enemy has suffered heavily in Herat Province.

The April Revolution in completely changing life in DRA. In the eyes of the people living in Herat Province, many changes are taking place. Although the populist administration [words indistinct] the program in the interest of the Afghan people, it is sincerely putting it into effect. For example, in accordance with proportions in Afghanistan, over 10 extraordinary factories are operating in Herat Province. Land reclamation work continues in the province. Afghan farmers used to suffer from lack of land and water in the past. The populist government is supplying land and water to the farmers and it is only natural they attach a high regard to the changes in the country.

Significant work is being carried out for reactivation by the army and the militia forces in regions liberated from the enemy and by the activists of the populist sovereignty among the people. Special groups are being sent to the villages. They are briefing the local people on the details of the April Revolution and also telling them about the obligations established by the government for improving the life of the people--primarily that of the peasants. The doctors, who are included among the ranks of the activists of the populist sovereignty, are extending medical services to the peasants.

The work carried out by the said group is not pleasing to the enemies. It is due to this that they are (?planting explosives) on roads used by the activists of the populist sovereignty and seeking vengeance from the people of villages who participate in the measures taken by the activists. Nevertheless, the members of the activists of the populist sovereignty are welcome in villages.

A number of years ago, Basmachi groups (?settled) in numerous places around Herat city. This state of affairs has changed now. The populist sovereignty has established itself over the whole of the province. This, of course, is contributing toward the effort made to improve the situation.

Dozens of Basmachi groups have terminated their activities recently. Talks are being held with many groups for the ending of their operations. Local officials have reported, however, that a number of enemy groups are still operating in the province. They are being guided by landlords who have been deprived of their privileges. There are also criminals among the Basmachis. Until the revolution they used to engage in crime. Now, they are presenting themselves as fighters for safeguarding the purity and franchise of the religion of Islam. Nevertheless, there are [word indistinct] individuals among the Basmachis as well. These individuals have long been considering the fact that the path they have chosen to fight against their own people is wrong.

This is the truth about the achievements of the April Revolution. Nevertheless, there are those who wish to conceal or distort this reality. But those who wish to extinguish the flame of truth shall themselves be turned into ashes by the same flame.

CSO: 1836/52

AFGHANISTAN

PAPER DESCRIBES SOLDIER'S HEROISM IN DRA

PM281440 Moscow KOMSOMOL'SKAYA PRAVDA in Russian 24 Jun 84 p 4

[Article by Yu. Ivanov under the rubric "Contemporaries": "The Village Was Waiting for Bread"]

[Excerpts] The Chernozhukovs rent a small apartment. One room. It is actually possible to apply for housing, but Sasha is not at all persistent: There are others who need accommodation. What they have now is bright and comfortable for the time being.

Sasha insists on making the tea himself. He has a magic touch with the teapot, just like with pilaf. He is convinced that there is an art to it.

He is 25 years old. He is also a hero of the Soviet Union.

The commander was concerned. He looked at the map and could almost see the ambush on it. An ordinary geographical map: rivers, passes, villages. And how much it could tell the commander's heart. He gave the order, sending the soldiers on a dangerous mission.

"The dushmans have isolated a number of centers of population in Oruzgan Province. The population's food supplies are running out. The people urgently need grain. It will be shipped on a truck convoy. The Afghan comrades are asking us to help their subunits protect the convoy's movements. It means 300 km of mountain roads...."

It was not only the commander who appreciated the complexity of the task. The road to be traveled by the grain convoy was the only one in the locality. Mountains on both sides. An attack possible at any moment. As to road mines-- nothing out of the ordinary. You cannot take a detour, there is nowhere to hide, nor can you turn back. The people are waiting for the grain.

The commander sighed heavily and repeated:

"Three hundred kilometers."

...The green valley, sectioned by the squares of the peasants' fields, was left behind.

Senior Lieutenant Chernozhukov's platoon, together with an Afghan subunit, was at the head of the convoy. The armored personnel carriers' wheels were eating up the dusty kilometers of the hard upward slope. The chain of powerful trucks stretched over 100 meters. The "Tatras" are fraternal Czechoslovakia's aid to the Afghan friends, winding above the precipice, by drivers from one of the people's motor vehicle enterprises. During the rest stops Chernozhukov looked at those stern, silent men. Many of them had families or relatives dying of hunger in the villages that were isolated by the dushmans.

The monotony of the road and the rhythmic roar of the engines tend to lull the senses. But Chernozhukov's attention was strained to the utmost. A surprise was to be expected at any moment. Chernozhukov halted the convoy at the pass.

"Something is not right here," he said, putting his field glasses down. "A village, and yet not a single person to be seen in the streets. I would not be surprised if the dushmans have set up an ambush."

He sent some servicemen to reconnoitre. And all of a sudden shots were fired from the slopes surrounding the village.

Together with the Afghan fighters, Chernozhukov's platoon drove at full speed into the deserted village--directly under fire. The task was to draw the fire on themselves and enable the convoy to get by the dangerous spot. It sounds simple in military language: draw off the fire. What it means in practice is to jump out in the open and make yourself a target for a hundred barrels.

Chernozhukov gave his orders faultlessly. Afterward he himself was amazed how quickly he had managed to organize everything. In this way they avoided losses and tied the dushmans' hands. It was far from simple to accomplish this. After all, the dushmans had prepared their positions in good time and their fire covered every spot. Hidden in cracks in the rocks, the bandits poured their fire from above. But they managed to avoid them safely.

The convoy came to life. A mightily rumble echoed in the narrow streets, a train of dust rose in the air.

All of a sudden one of the trucks halted in the village center. A tongue of flame, almost invisible in the sun, shot out. One of the hidden bandits had opened fire with a grenade launcher. The Afghan soldiers' accurate fire silenced him immediately.

"The grain! Save the grain!"

Chernozhukov was the first to leap toward the burning truck. Sacks started flying out of the truck's body. The injured Afghan driver was trying to put out the flames with the foam of his fire extinguisher.

The burning and already empty truck was pushed into a side street to clear the road for the other vehicles. There, beyond the walls, the fuel tank exploded with a metallic bang.

Night fell unexpectedly. One more day was over. Just over 30 km had been covered in one day. Very little. Even fiercer attempts by the dushmans to halt the grain convoy were to be expected ahead.

...The road to Murchay pass rose steeply upward at the end of the narrow canyon. The location seemed almost tailor-made for an ambush.

They halted. Chernozhukov assigned everyone's tasks in case of attack.

The mine exploded beneath the wheels of the leading armored personnel carrier. Shots were fired immediately from the direction of the pass, bursts of machine-gun fire echoed.

In order to contain the dushmans' fire it was necessary to climb up the incline, above them. Chernozhukov's platoon, together with the Afghan subunit's fighters, rushed up the steep mountain incline. The steep slope would not have been easy to climb even under normal circumstances. And now--point-blank fire. The next spurt is only a matter of seconds. From boulder to boulder, only a meter away from the precipice. Forward. Upward. Faster.

The dushmans immediately understood and anticipated the maneuver, shifting their fire from the road to the group of dare-devils coming up the slope.

Chernozhukov was lying behind a small boulder. He was waiting for a second's break in the fire. Being in the lead, he was in the bandits' sights. The bullets were whistling, hitting right next to the boulder. Chernozhukov carefully raised his head. His soldiers had taken cover only a few steps away, with the Afghan fighters right next to them. He gave them a sign: Now--forward. No more than five steps separated them from the next rock.

Five steps. Chernozhukov carefully examined the section from behind the boulder. Just don't let anyone stumble. A dash. And, together with him, the whole group covered these few meters, more difficult and more dangerous than a long road, in a joint purposeful rush. In their impotent fury the dushmans opened fierce fire on the already empty section. Suddenly the fire ceased. The bandits hurried away.

The road was open.

The village of Deh Rawod lay beyond the pass. All its population came out to meet the convoy. Children clambered on the trucks. Girls brought pitchers with cold water. Exhausted by hunger and with tears of gratitude in their eyes, the people firmly shook their saviors' hands. The bandits did not succeed in intimidating the small village and crushing its determination in the struggle for the new life.

This is just one episode from Aleksandr Chernozhukov's service in Afghanistan. A lot was packed into 2 years. Have these 2 years changed him? Maybe externally. He has matured. He has gathered experience. He has been admitted to membership of the CPSU. He has become a Hero of the Soviet Union.

But he has remained exactly the same modest and honest fellow, most specifically aware of his duty: to be wherever the motherland needs him most. To be able to defend everything that is dear and sacred.

Captain Chernozhukov now serves in the very same unit where he started as lieutenant right after school. Now he is chief of staff of a motor rifle battalion. An exacting duty. Sasha leaves for work at 6 o'clock in the morning and does not get back before midnight. And Lyusya waits, looking not at the clock but out of the window.

The captain does not have it easy on his days off, either. He meets students, schoolchildren, working young people.

"I would like to convince the children: Had most of them been in my place they would have done exactly the same, all you need is to have faith in yourself, like many of my fellow-servicemen whom I know like I know myself. Take Oleg Korolev, lieutenant. Awarded the Orders of the Red Banner and the Red Star. And Sergeant Savchenko! A real Ukrainian hero. On one occasion he was wounded in the leg by shrapnel. The lads put him on a stretcher. He saw that the load was heavy for them. "Halt!", he shouted jokingly. "I'll make my own way, otherwise you'll drop me and break my leg." And he walked to the medical post. On his own! The doctors simply could not believe it. Some guys...."

CSO: 1801/394

AFGHANISTAN

AFGHAN BORDER GUARDS' MORALE 'VERY HIGH'

LD272147 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1420 GMT 29 Jun 84

[From the Vremya newscast; video report by correspondent V. Fadeyev]

[Text] Not far from here lies the border with Iran. [video shows guards at fortified post] Border guards must not relax their vigilance for a minute. [video shows armored vehicle at post and guards inspecting civilians' documents] People who appear here may not have good intentions. So the border fighters have to learn the art of discernment, who is who. In the night, convoys with weapons may arrive across the desert plateau, cooled down after the scorching heat of day. [video shows five guards on patrol] In such circumstances, the border guards have to engage in combat, frequently against superior numbers of insurgent forces. Therefore, the combat training of the fighters, their political and moral training, are the chief concern of the commanding officers. [video shows guards standing in line for inspection, all carrying rifles] We also saw these people in national dress in general formation. These are voluntary assistants of the border guards from among the local population. The numbers of volunteers are growing throughout the whole country, and this factor, the defense of the border, has a great significance, since the border's overall length along Iran and Pakistan consists of 3,000 kilometers, and it is across the border that weapons and new armed formations continue to cross, to support the bands operating on the territory of Afghanistan. [video shows guards in vehicles, followed by shot of man speaking to camera; caption identifies him as "M. Gol, border guard officer"]

[Gol] Our section was set up recently. But all the border guard fighters, despite their youth, are successfully resolving the tasks assigned them to carry out border guard service. Only in the last few months they seized a huge quantity of all kinds of weapons destined for the dushmen. I want to note that the morale among our fighters is very high. Among them are many real heroes. We know that the whole of the people are behind us.

CSO: 1801/394

AFGHANISTAN

LOCAL BORDER MILITIA FORMED IN JALALABAD

Moscow SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA in Russian 4 Jul 84 p 4

[Article by A. Sukhoparov, Jalalabad: "Meetings on Afghan Soil"]

[Text] The Jalalabad valley, one of the picturesque corners of Afghanistan, is surrounded by mountains with big fortresslike embankments on all sides. Stretching at their foothills is the city of Jalalabad, the administrative center of the province of Nangrahar which is alongside the very border with Pakistan.

After the national-democratic revolution in April 1978, the situation in the provinces, just as in the entire country, began to change. The new authority set its course for the building of a society of equality and social justice, for overcoming economic backwardness and raising the workers' standard of living. Afghan farmers, the overwhelming number of whom formerly suffered from a lack of land and land hunger and were forced into bondage and to turn to the feudal lords and usurers, are now receiving their own strips as a result of the land and water reforms being conducted.

"In our province," says the first secretary of the Nangrahar provincial committee of the Peoples-Democratic Party of Afghanistan (NDPA), in the past a teacher, Muhammed Anvar Isar, in a talk with us, "the conduct of reforms encountered the furious resistance of the former big landowners who had lost their privileges. Many of the wealthy and their minions fled to neighboring Pakistan where, with the aid of the U.S. secret services and regional reaction, they are organizing bands of hired killers and saboteurs whom they then send into the DRA [Democratic Republic of Afghanistan]. They terrorize the peasants who received land, attack cooperatives, burn schools and hospitals, and kill clergymen, teachers, and doctors."

But despite the difficulties more than 1,700 peasant families have already received official documents on the right to possess land. Agricultural cooperatives have begun to be created. In which regard, not only supply and sales cooperatives as was the case in the first years of the revolution, but also for the joint working of the land. There are already 35 of them. The government of the DRA and its provincial organs are helping the peasants who received land and the cooperatives with improved varieties of seeds, chemical fertilizer, agricultural implements, and equipment, and are granting credits under favorable terms.

The pride of the province is the newly restored university, the second after Kabul University. It opened after the April revolution. However, during an attack by Basmachi bands the buildings were burned and destroyed and equipment and textbooks destroyed. Now the university has been completely restored, and this year 400 students entered the first course. They are studying in four faculties: physics-mathematics, biology, medicine, and philology.

There are many traces of the Basmachi crimes in Jalalabad and its environs. We visited the village of Tape-Shotor (Verblyuzhiy [camel] Hill). There, in the 1930's, Afghan archeologists discovered the ruins of a Buddhist temple. Excavations provided a wealth of material for research and permitted creating a museum beneath the open sky. Scientists and tourists of the entire world visited it with interest. However, some time ago as a result of a regular raid by the Basmachi bands the museum disappeared and the exhibits were destroyed or stolen.

"There--beyond the mountains is the border," pointing to the east says the chairman of the provincial soviet of the National Fatherland Front of the DRA, one of the leaders of a big Pushtu tribe of Shinwari, Kohat Khan. "From that place, just as in former times when the British ruled there, danger threatens our people."

Kohat Khan told that a regiment had been created from representatives of the Shinwari tribe. It now numbers 450 fighters. A big detachment was also formed by another Pushtu tribe--the Mohmands. There are now about 2,500 men in the detachments of the defenders of the revolution in the province. Together with units of the regular army and the people's militia, they are guarding Nangrahar from the attacks of counterrevolutionary bands which are taking cover in the mountains.

With each passing day, the population of the province feels more confident and peaceful and looks into the future with optimism. They know that the fate of their land and revolution is in their own hands. Looking at the majestic peak of Spingar, one automatically wants to compare it with the inflexibility of the spirit of the people who live at its foot. They are building a new life on their ancient and beautiful land.

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CSO: 1801/362

AFGHANISTAN

GUARDS' MAJOR HONORED FOR AFGHAN MISSION

PM121158 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 11 Jul 84 Second Edition p 1

[Report by correspondent Major A. Oliynik: "For Courage and Heroism"]

[Text] In a solemn atmosphere Army General D. Sukhorukov, commander of Airborne Troops, presented a "Gold Star" medal and the Order of Lenin to Guards' Major V. Pimenov on behalf of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium.

The lofty title of hero of the Soviet Union has been conferred on communist officer Pimenov for successfully fulfilling a mission to render international assistance to the DRA and for the courage and heroism displayed in that. The paratroop battalion commanded by Guards' Maj Pimenov is one of the best in the unit. The battalion commander skillfully trains and educates subordinates and molds high moral and combat qualities in them.

Guards' Maj Pimenov was warmly congratulated on the motherland's highest award by Lieutenant General S. Smirnov, chief of the Airborne Troops Political Department, and by other generals and officers of the Airborne Troops Staff and Political Department.

CSO: 1801/394

AFGHANISTAN

OFFICER DESCRIBES SERVICE IN DRA

PM151815 Moscow KOMSOMOL'SKAYA PRAVDA in Russian 11 Jul 84 p 2

[Unattributed report under the rubric "Place of Service Afghanistan": "'You Are So Reliable'"--report is carried as part of full-page "Dialogue" feature]

[Text] "How did you come to serve in Afghanistan?" "What was your most memorable day in the DRA?" "What, in your view, distinguishes today's young people from those of the forties?" "What do you think should be done to improve military-patriotic education?" Those were just some of the questions put to Senior Lieutenant Sergey Popov, secretary of a unit Komsomol committee and holder of the Order of the Red Star, at a question and answer session held by "Dialogue."

[Popov] What is my strongest memory of my 2 years' service in the limited contingent of Soviet troops? I remember my comrades in arms, our wonderful fellows, simple and courageous, worthy successors of the soldiers of the Great Patriotic War. Our servicemen--Russians, Ukrainians, Belorussians, Uzbeks, Turkmens, and Georgians--are honorably fulfilling their international duty. The boys are setting examples of heroism.

I will cite just one example. Shovkat Saidov from Kazakhstan, a scout and sportsman, served in our company. Risking his own life, he protected the commander from a bandit machinegun with his own body. He received 12 bullet wounds. Doctors saved Shovkat's life. After hospital he was offered the choice of various workplaces. But Shovkat decided to return to the army, to his own unit. And USSR Defense Minister D.F. Ustinov supported his decision. Shovkat returned to the unit and served out his time with honor. When this lad left for home, it was gratifying to see him: he had the medals "Four Valor" and "For Combat Services," two orders of the Red Star, and an Afghan medal.

I saw villages razed to the ground by dushmans, burned-down schools, orphaned children. We helped the peasants and shared our bread. The Komsomol members of one tank unit built a school in a village together with members of the Democratic Youth Organization of Afghanistan. The Afghans created a commune there, but they had no plow. The soldiers in a repair regiment made a harrow and a wooden plow and helped plow the fields.

What should be the focus of attention in educating young men? From my own experience I would say it is necessary to strengthen their physical training, temper their will, and inculcate endurance and self-discipline. I considered myself quite well trained, being a master of sport in boxing, yet it was difficult for me at first.

Let us recall that Comrade K.U. Chernenko said in his speech at the All-Army Conference of Komsomol Organization Secretaries: "Lenin's behest to 'really study military matters!' must be the pivot around which all the work of the army Komsomol is built." [Popov ends]

When Sergey left the platform another note was handed in to the Presidium. It said: "Thank you, our fine lads, for being so reliable."

We pass on these words to all who are courageously and honorably fulfilling their international duty.

CSO: 1801/394

END